

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

NAUTILUS INSURANCE COMPANY,

Petitioner,

v.

RICHARD ALEXANDER MURDAUGH,
Sr., CORY FLEMING, MOSS & KUHN,
P.A., CHAD WESTENDORF, PALMETTO
STATE BANK, and THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA,

Respondents.

In re Grand Jury Subpoena 2022-0064

Case No. 2:22-cv-1307-RMG

AMENDED COMPLAINT

COMES NOW Nautilus Insurance Company (“Nautilus”), amending its pleading pursuant to Rule 15(a)(1) and (i) complaining of and seeking relief from all Defendants *except* the United States of America and (ii) requesting a declaration as to its rights and obligations with regard to a Grand Jury Subpoena issued by the United States of America. Nautilus’ grounds are as follows.

PARTIES AND JURISDICTION

1. Nautilus is an insurer organized under the laws of Arizona and with its principal place of business in Scottsdale, Arizona.
2. Richard Alexander Murdaugh, Sr. (“Murdaugh”) is a citizen and resident of Colleton County, South Carolina and at all times relevant hereto was an attorney licensed to practice law in South Carolina.
3. Cory Fleming (“Fleming”) is a citizen and resident of Beaufort County, South Carolina, and at all times relevant hereto was an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of South Carolina.
4. Moss & Kuhn, P.A., formerly known as Moss, Kuhn & Fleming, P.A. (“MKF”) is a South Carolina professional association, with its principal place of business located

14. Beginning in July 2021 and continuing through the filing of this action, Nautilus

Satterfield family; instead, Fleming disbursed the funds (minus fees of over \$600,000) to an account created by Murdaugh in the name of “Forge” and controlled by Murdaugh.

- h. That no effort was made by Westendorf, Palmetto, Fleming, or MKF to ensure that the funds intended for the Satterfield family were received by the Satterfield family, violating their obligations regarding escrow funds and their disbursement.
- 15. Through the Irregularities and other actions, Murdaugh and others—including Fleming, MKF, Westendorf, and Palmetto (collectively, “the Co-conspirators”)—coordinated efforts to improperly obtain insurance money and disburse insurance proceeds for their own personal gain and at the expense of Nautilus.
- 16. The Irregularities led to Murdaugh and Fleming being suspended from the practice of law and indicted.
- 17. The Irregularities shone a different light on some of the facts and circumstances surrounding the claim such that it is now apparent these facts and circumstances were misrepresentations or concealments of the truth, were deceitful, and were intended to mislead, obscure, and dissemble, including:
 - a. That, immediately following Gloria Satterfield’s fall on February 2, 2018, Murdaugh rushed to the scene, arriving before EMS. On March 29, 2018, Murdaugh stated that Ms. Satterfield briefly regained consciousness during which time she stated that Murdaugh’s dogs had caused her to fall. This statement was heard by no one else and is contradicted by Ms. Satterfield’s later statement to hospital staff that she had no idea what made her fall.
 - b. That, on March 29, 2018, Murdaugh claimed Ms. Satterfield was at his property, not to perform work for Murdaugh and his family, but to collect a check for work performed for someone else, thus avoiding a worker’s compensation defense.

- c. That Murdaugh stated to multiple third parties in Hampton County that he was liable for Gloria Satterfi

- b. On or about March 22, 2018, Murdaugh stated to an independent adjuster—with the intent that Nautilus would rely on his representation—that shortly after the purported fall, he heard Ms. Satterfield say that Murdaugh’s dogs had caused her to fall. Ms. Satterfield made no such statement and later told hospital staff she did not know why she had fallen.
 - i. Murdaugh repeated the statement on March 29, 2018 during an interview with Bryant McGowan, an insurance investigator, again with the intent that Nautilus would rely on the representation.
 - c. On or about March 29, 2018, Murdaugh stated to Bryant McGowan that, on the day of the purported fall, Ms. Satterfield was at his property not to perform work for Murdaugh and his family, but to collect a check for work performed for someone else. In fact, she was there to perform work herself. Murdaugh intended that Nautilus would rely on this representation.
 - d. On or about April 2, 2019, Murdaugh represented to counsel appointed by Nautilus for his defense that Nautilus should disburse funds for the settlement of the action to Westendorf and MFK, and that the funds so disbursed would be distributed to the Satterfield estate. In fact, he intended for the funds so disbursed to be distributed to himself and his co-conspirators, and the funds ultimately were so distributed.
23. Murdaugh made these false statements knowing they were false and intending that Nautilus would rely on them. Specifically, he sought to mislead Nautilus and force it to contribute to a “settlement” that was not real.
24. Nautilus relied on Murdaugh’s false statements to its detriment and disbursed funds under the Policy for the “settlement” based upon the fraud and deceit, directly and proximately causing damage to Nautilus.
25. Nautilus is entitled to punitive damages.
26. Nautilus requests the Court adjudicate whether Murdaugh defrauded and deceived Nautilus by his actions. This claim is unique to Nautilus and has not and could not have been brought by any other person or entity.

FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION
(Conspiracy to Commit Fraud – All Defendants Except the United States)

26. The foregoing paragraphs are incorporated as if fully restated herein.

42. The foregoing paragraphs are incorporated as if fully restated herein.
43. The United States served a subpoena on Nautilus on February 8, 2022 for Nautilus' files relating to the Satterfield claims, including files over which Murdaugh has asserted claims of privilege (largely the files of the firm that defended Murdaugh in the Satterfield claims).
44. With regard to the subpoenaed materials, Nautilus provided the files in its possession to Murdaugh's counsel and asked they advise as to whether Murdaugh claimed privilege. Murdaugh asserted privilege.
45. Nautilus asked Murdaugh's counsel for a privilege log and no such log has been produced.
46. Nautilus has not produced materials sought by the Subpoena over which there has been a claim of attorney-client privilege by Murdaugh.
47. Nautilus contends the materials in question are not privileged.
48. Because Murdaugh's invocation of privilege has constrained Nautilus' ability to respond to the subpoena, there exists an actual and current controversy or uncertainty of legal relations between Nautilus and Murdaugh, and/or among Nautilus, Murdaugh, and the United States that requires resolution by this Court and a declaration of the rights and obligations of the parties arising out of the subpoena, coverage, and the claims.
49. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2201 and Rule 57, F.R.C.P., Nautilus requests a declaration from this Court that the materials in question are not privileged and that Nautilus is free to turn them over to the United States in accordance with the subpoena.
50. Further, Nautilus requests this Court declare the rights and obligations of Nautilus, Murdaugh, and the other Conspirators regarding the Irregularities, including that Murdaugh and the other Conspirators, through fraudulent and misleading statements and actions upon which Nautilus reasonably relied, caused Nautilus to contribute funds under the Policy to a sham settlement intended to enrich Murdaugh and his co-conspirators, and Nautilus' entitlement to recover those funds.

WHEREFORE, Nautilus requests this Court declare the rights and obligations of the parties arising out of the Irregularities regarding the coverage and the claim, as well as arising out of the service of the subpoena. Nautilus requests an award of treble damages, attorneys' fees, and punitive damages. Nautilus further requests relief that is just and proper based upon the facts as they shall be established during these proceedings.

Respectfully submitted:

This 11th day of May, 2022
Charleston, South Carolina

/s/ Jaan Rannik

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