

CBS TELEVISION NETWORK
PUBLIC AFFAIRS BROADCASTS
SEPTEMBER 2023

Page 1 of 7

FACE THE NATION

09/03/23

Guests: Nikki Haley, former United States ambassador to the United Nations, former governor (R-SC), 2024 Republican presidential candidate (1); Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) (2); Larry Hogan, former governor (R-MD) (3); Ashley Etienne, CBS News contributor, Democratic strategist (4); Terry Sullivan, Republican strategist (4); Gina Raimondo, U.S. secretary of commerce, Biden administration (5); Mark Strassmann, CBS News senior national correspondent (6)

Guest Moderator: Robert Costa, CBS News chief election and campaign correspondent

- 1) Topics include: support for term limits and mental competency tests for anyone over the age of 75; important spending deadline and potential government shutdown; supporting Mr. Trump, should he be the Republican nominee / criticism of Vice President Harris / consolidating the non-Trump vote
- 2) Topics include: nation's economic reality / gains made by the Biden administration / winning back a working class which is leaving the Democratic Party / need for President Biden to run on a strong progressive agenda; major reforms in primary health care
- 3) Topics include: GOP presidential field of candidates / focus on nominating a Republican challenger that is not Donald Trump / third-party candidates / his work with the bipartisan group No Labels / possibility of the former governor seeking the nomination on a No Labels ticket
- 4) Topics include: President Biden's connection with working class voters / running against former President Trump; calls from some Republicans to impeach President Biden; President Biden's age / topics driving voters
- 5) Topics include: CBS News polling indicating the administration's economic efforts are not resonating with some Americans; deadline to avoid an October 1st partial federal government shutdown; recent trip to China / Chinese companies making investments and buying farmland in the United States
- 6) a report from Atlanta, GA, on the persistent concerns about the lasting effects of pandemic learning loss

09/10/23

Guests: Vice President Kamala Harris, Biden administration (1) (4); Representative French Hill (R-AR) (2); Ed O'Keefe, CBS News senior White House and political correspondent (3); General (Ret.) Frank McKenzie, United States Marine Corps, former commander, United States Central Command (5); David Sanger, White House and national security correspondent, *The New York Times* (6); Josh Rogin, foreign policy and national security columnist, *Washington Post* (6)

- 1) Excerpt from an interview with Vice President Kamala Harris, recorded late last week while she was in Jakarta, Indonesia for ASEAN Summit. Topics include: why she thinks Republicans are attacking her personally; root causes of migration; abortion rights
- 2) Topics include: avoiding a government shutdown / Republicans who vow not to vote to fund the government unless an impeachment inquiry on Joe Biden is passed; Ukraine Reconstruction Act; his recent trip to Syria
- 3) a report from Hanoi, Vietnam on President Biden's meeting with Vietnam's leaders as part of an effort to "counter China in this region", made after his visit to the G20 summit in India on Saturday
- 4) Additional excerpt from the interview with Vice President Harris. Topics include: China / leadership summit this November in San Francisco; North Korea's Kim Jong Un's expected meeting with Vladimir Putin in Russia
- 5) Topics include: enduring threat of ISIS / U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan; threat posed by Iran
- 6) a discussion on the diplomatic challenges facing the Biden administration in Asia

CBS TELEVISION NETWORK
PUBLIC AFFAIRS BROADCASTS
SEPTEMBER 2023

Page 2 of 7

FACE THE NATION (continued)

09/17/23

Guests: Kris Van Cleave, CBS News national correspondent (1); Shawn Fain, president, United Auto Workers (UAW) (2); Representative Debbie Dingell (D-MI) (3); Anthony Salvanto, CBS News executive director of elections and surveys (4); Representative Mike Turner (R-OH), chairman, House Intelligence Committee (5); Senator Mark Warner (D-VA), chairman, Senate Intelligence Committee (6); Sean Penn, actor, co-director, *Superpower* (6)

1) a report from Toledo, OH, on the UAW's history-making simultaneous strike against the nation's "Big Three" automakers

2) Topics include: possible strikes at additional plants / strike demands / benefits and pay disparity between workers and executives / use of non-unionized factories to make batteries for electric vehicles / the transition to electric vehicles / corporate reaction to union demands

3) Topics include: significance of the negotiations between the UAW and the automakers / non-unionized battery manufacturing plants / President Biden's role, if any, in the negotiations / keeping presidential politics out of the negotiations

4) CBS News poll results indicating President Biden is in a "precarious" position in a hypothetical matchup with former President Donald Trump

5) Topics include: potential government shutdown / possible impact of the just-announced Biden impeachment inquiry on the negotiations; continued support for Ukraine / President Zelenskyy's upcoming visit to Washington; expected prisoner swap with Iran / travel to Iran; classified documents

6) Topics include: Trump and Biden classified documents; potential prisoner swap with Iran to bring five Americans home; China's AI capabilities and the threats posed to our upcoming elections; President Biden's record on the economy; potential government shutdown

7) an interview about *Superpower*, his new documentary on the war in Ukraine and President Zelenskyy

09/24/23

Guests: Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY) (1); Representative Tony Gonzales (R-TX) (2); Senator Mark Kelly (D-AZ) (3); Robert O'Brien, former United States national security adviser, Trump administration (4); Olena Zelenska, first lady of Ukraine (5)

1) Topics include: inserting presidential politics into the UAW strike / earning the endorsement from the UAW / President Biden's upcoming historic visit to the UAW picket line / non-unionized electric vehicle battery manufacturing plants; immigration reform / Temporary Protective Status (TPS) for Venezuelans / U.S. sanctions and their impact on the migration crisis / sanctions against Venezuela; New Jersey Democratic Senator Bob Menendez' indictment on bribery charges.; Republican House Speaker Kevin McCarthy

2) Topics include: his opposition to a short-term deal to avert a government shutdown / belief that the United States is headed for a government shutdown / impact of a government shutdown on Border Patrol agents; his solutions to "Joe Biden's failed immigration policies" / TPS for Venezuelans

3) Topics include: his recent trip to Ukraine; Senator Bob Menendez; decades-long border crisis / concern over the potential government shutdown and its impact on Border Patrol agents

4) Topics include: possible government shutdown; concern over the possible fallout from the recent deal made to secure the freedom of five Americans from Iran; why he never considered resigning after January 6th / serving in a possible second Trump administration

5) Topics include: impact of the war on Ukrainian children / speaking at the United Nations about the sexual violence committed by the Russian military / genocide and ethnocide in Ukraine / Russia's kidnapping of Ukrainian children; her current family life / President Zelenskyy running for reelection in 2024 if elections are held

CBS TELEVISION NETWORK
PUBLIC AFFAIRS BROADCASTS
SEPTEMBER 2023

Page 3 of 7

60 MINUTES

- 09/03/23 **“Hide And Seek”** – a report the island of Cyprus, used by Russian oligarchs to hide their assets. Following sanctions made against Russia launching its invasion of Ukraine, investigators for the U.S. and EU are attempting to find hidden offshore money on the small Mediterranean country. Includes interviews with Alexandra Attalides, a member of the Cyprus Parliament; Maira Martini, an analyst for Transparency International; Constantinos Petrides, the Cyprus Minister of Finance; and Lisa Monaco, U.S. Deputy Attorney General. (C: Sharyn Alfonsi – P: Oriana Zill de Granados) (OAD: 01/15/23)
- “An American Down Under”** – a report on Australian rules football player Mason Cox. The only American in the league, he has become a celebrity as the star player for the Collingwood Magpies. Includes interviews with Tom Mitchell, Jack Crisp, Darcy Moore, Collingwood teammates; Marcus Smart, an NBA player for the Boston Celtics; and Craig McRae, head coach of Collingwood. (C: Jon Wertheim – P: Jacqueline Williams) (OAD: 04/30/23)
- “Jeff Koons”** – a profile of artist Jeff Koons. The polarizing artist discusses his sculptures and paintings, his New York studio, and pushing the boundaries of taste. Includes an excerpt from Morley Safer’s segment “Yes...But Is It Art?” (OAD: 9/19/93), criticizing Koons’ artwork. Includes interviews with Robert Storr, former curator at the Museum of Modern Art in New York; and Ayami Aoyama, who works for Koons. (C: Anderson Cooper – P: Nichole Marks) (OAD: 05/21/23)
- 09/10/23 60 MINUTES (7:46 – 8:46p)
- “9.11: The FDNY”** – a report on the 9/11 terrorist attacks and its impact on the Fire Department of New York. Firefighters who were at Ground Zero on that day discuss the tragedy and recall fallen colleagues. Includes interviews with Joe Pfeifer, Chief of Counterterrorism; Sal Cassano, fire Commissioner; Peter Hayden, Chief of Department; Dan Nigro, FDNY Commissioner; John Peruggia, EMS Division Chief; John Sudnik, Chief of Department; Regina Wilson, Jeff Coniglio, Jamie Efthimiades, James McGlynn and Bob Bacon, firefighters who were there that day; Captain Peter Ganci III and Battalion Chief Chris Ganci, sons of the late chief of department Peter Ganci; Josephine Smith, a firefighter whose late father Kevin Smith passed away on 9/11; John Palombo and Tommy Palombo, both firefighters whose father Frank Palombo passed on 9/11; and Mike Florio, a firefighter whose father John Florio passed on 9/11. (C: Scott Pelley – P: Maria Gavrilovic) THIS SEGMENT RUNS THE FULL HOUR. (OAD: 09/12/21; Rebroadcast: 09/11/22)
- 09/17/23 60 MINUTES (7:50 – 8:50p) (56th SEASON PREMIERE)
- “President Zelenskyy”** – an interview with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy at the Presidential Offices in Kyiv, Ukraine. He discusses his upcoming trip to the United States, where he will speak at the United Nations and meet with President Biden, the state of Ukraine’s counteroffensive and Russia’s ongoing war. (See also: “President Zelenskyy”, OAD: 04/10/22) (C: Scott Pelley – P: Maria Gavrilovic)
- “Into the Streets”** – a report from Israel on Brothers and Sisters in Arms. As the Israeli government’s plan to overhaul the Supreme Court draws widespread opposition and counter-defense from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, military reservists continue to join the protest group. Includes interviews with Eyal Naveh, Shira Eting, Ron Scherf, and Omri Ronen, members of Brothers and Sisters in Arms; and Yariv Levin, Deputy Prime Minister of Israel. (C: Lesley Stahl – P: Shachar Bar-On)
- “Prime Time in Colorado”** – an interview with football coach Deion Sanders, aka “Prime Time”. As new head coach for the University of Colorado, he discusses his time as a professional athlete, his values as a leader, and his future in sports. Includes interviews with Rick George, athletic director at University of Colorado; and Shedeur and Shilo Sanders, his sons who play football. (See also: “Coach Prime”, OAD: 10/16/22) (C: Jon Wertheim – P: Draggan Mihailovich)
- The Last Minute** – welcome back for 60 MINUTES season 56. (C: Lesley Stahl)

CBS TELEVISION NETWORK
PUBLIC AFFAIRS BROADCASTS
SEPTEMBER 2023

Page 4 of 7

60 MINUTES (continued)

- 09/24/23 **“CARE Court”** – a report on California’s CARE Court program. The controversial new program aims to provide court mandated mental health care to those in need, though many fear it is a form of medical incarceration. Includes interviews with Gavin Newsom, Governor of California; Anita Fisher, mental health advocate; Pharoh Degree, Anita’s son (via phone); Eve Garrow, homelessness policy analyst for the ACLU of Southern California; and Marquesha Babers, who grew up homeless. (C: Cecilia Vega – P: Natalie Jimenez Peel)
- “Bankrolling the War”** – a report on the scope of the United States’ contributions to Ukraine since Russia’s military invasion in 2022. As Congress considers more financing, some question the aid’s impact on the war. Includes interviews with Oleksandr Shyrshyn, a Ukrainian lieutenant; Ben Hodges, an American Lieutenant General who commanded the U.S. Army in Europe; Tatiana Abramova, owner of a knitwear company being subsidized by the U.S. government; Lindsey Graham, South Carolina Senator; Elizabeth Warren, Massachusetts Senator; and Oleksandra Ustinova, an anti-corruption activist and outspoken member of Ukraine’s parliament. (C: Holly Williams – P: Erin Lyall)
- “Hanging On”** – a report from Costa Rica on sloths. Scientists aim to gather new scientific data about the elusive animal through an unprecedented population study. Includes interviews with Lucy Cooke, a British zoologist who studies sloths; Leslie Howle, founder of the Toucan Rescue Ranch; and Becky Cliffe, British zoologist and founder of The Sloth Conservation Foundation. (C: Sharyn Alfonsi – P: Guy Campanile)
- The Last Minute** – an update to “Who Is Ray Epps?”, OAD: 04/23/23. (C: Cecilia Vega)

48 HOURS

- 09/02/23 PREEMPTION
- 09/08/23 **48 HOURS: “The Brighton Ax Murder”** (10:17 – 11:00p) – a reedited, abbreviated and updated rebroadcast of “The Brighton Ax Murder” (OAD: 02/25/23), a report on the murder of 29-year-old wife and mother Cathy Krauseneck of Brighton, NY, which remained unsolved for four decades. The case, dubbed the Brighton Ax Murder, was one of the oldest, coldest murder cases in America. On February 19th, 1982, her husband, Jim Krauseneck, said he found Cathy dead in their bed with an ax in her head, after he returned home from his job as a Kodak company economist. Aspects of the crime scene did not sit right with investigators; police believe it was staged to look like a burglary to cover up the real crime – the intentional murder of Cathy by her husband, who left town shortly after speaking with police. The case sat for decades until 2019, when authorities in Monroe County, NY hired forensic pathologist Michael Baden to investigate. Baden believed Cathy was killed around 3:30 am; for prosecutors that meant Jim would have been home at the time. Jim was indicted on November 1st, 2019; he voluntarily surrendered to authorities a week later. The case went to trial in 2022; Jim was found guilty of second-degree murder and sentenced to 25 years-to-life behind bars. Jim intends to appeal his conviction. Cathy’s father would like to move her remains from Jim’s family plot but needs her daughter Sara’s permission to do so. **09/08/23 UPDATE:** *Six months after Jim Krauseneck was sentenced, he died of cancer in prison. Sharon, Sara and Jim’s legal team are appealing the verdict, hoping to clear his name.* Original on-screen text graphic: Cathy’s family and Sara haven’t spoken since the trial. Sara has moved out of the country. *No on-screen text graphic for the 09/08/23 rebroadcast.* Original interviews: Sharon Krauseneck, Jim’s current wife; Mark Liberatore, retired detective; Detective Bill Flood; Gary Craig, reporter, *Democrat & Chronicle*, Rochester, NY; Detective Steve Hunt; Susie Jackimowicz, Cathy’s cousin; Bob Schlosser, Cathy’s father; Cathy Behe, Cathy’s friend; Sandra Doorley, district attorney, Monroe County, NY; Bill Easton, Jim’s defense attorney; Michael Wolford, Jim’s defense attorney; Rachel Rear, author, “Catch the Sparrow”, stepsister of Stephanie Kupchynsky, who was murdered by Ed Laraby, whom the defense named as a suspect in Cathy’s murder; Dr. Katherine Maloney, forensic pathologist, testified for the defense; Patrick Gallagher, prosecutor; Constance Patterson, prosecutor; and jurors Jane, Helen and Ivan (no last names given). *Interviews included in the 09/08/23 rebroadcast: Sharon Krauseneck, Jim’s current wife; Mark Liberatore, retired detective; Gary Craig, reporter, Democrat & Chronicle, Rochester, NY; Detective Steve Hunt; Susie Jackimowicz, Cathy’s cousin; Bob Schlosser, Cathy’s father; Cathy Behe, Cathy’s friend; Sandra Doorley, district attorney, Monroe County, NY; Bill Easton, Jim’s defense attorney; Michael Wolford, Jim’s defense attorney; Patrick Gallagher, prosecutor; Constance Patterson, prosecutor; and jurors Jane, Helen and Ivan (no last names given).* (C: Erin Moriarty – P: Josh Yager, James Stolz) (OAD: 02/25/23)
- 09/09/23 PREEMPTION

CBS TELEVISION NETWORK
PUBLIC AFFAIRS BROADCASTS
SEPTEMBER 2023

Page 5 of 7

48 HOURS (continued)

09/16/23

48 HOURS: “The Gilgo Beach Serial Killings” (9:00 – 10:00p) – the fourth follow-up report to “Long Island Serial Killer”. In May 2010, Shannan Gilbert, who worked as an escort, disappeared. The search for Gilbert led to the discovery of ten bodies in 2010 and 2011, in the scrub brush along Gilgo Beach, on Long Island, NY. Police suspected the work of a serial killer. Four of the women were identified as Maureen Brainard-Barnes, Melissa Barthelemy, Megan Waterman and Amber Costello. Like Gilbert, all were in their twenties, petite and were online escorts. Three of the four were wrapped in burlap. The victims became known as the Gilgo Four. In February 2022, Suffolk County police and the district attorney formed a new task force to investigate the murders; six weeks later, Rex Heuermann was identified for the first time as a suspect. Using the description provided by Costello’s roommate of one of her persistent clients and the vehicle he drove, investigators were able to tie Heuermann to the crime. DNA collected from a pizza slice he tossed in a Manhattan trash can came back as a match with hair found on the victims. In July 2023, Suffolk County police announced the arrest of 59-year-old Rex Heuermann and charged him with killing Melissa Barthelemy, Megan Waterman and Amber Costello; he is the prime suspect in the death of Maureen Brainard-Barnes. He pled not guilty and is being held in a Suffolk County jail. None of the other bodies found in 2011 along Ocean Parkway have been linked to him. Heuermann, an architect in Manhattan, lived about 20 minutes from Gilgo Beach, in Massapequa Park, with Asa Ellerup (his second wife of more than 25 years), stepson Christopher Sheridan and daughter Victoria Heuermann. Ellerup, who is battling breast and skin cancer, has filed for divorce from Heuermann. Additionally, investigators have identified strands of female hair found on two of the victims: Megan Waterman and Amber Costello. The DNA profile is consistent with Ellerup; she has not been charged or named a suspect in any of the murders. *No on-screen text graphic for this broadcast.* This broadcast is 48 HOURS’ sixth edition of the investigation into the Gilgo Beach serial murders and contains interviews from prior broadcasts. Interviewed: Dominick Varrone, former chief of detectives, Suffolk County Police Department; Missy Cann, Maureen Brainard-Barnes’ sister; Muriel Henriquez, worked at Heuermann’s company, RH Consultants & Associates, spoke exclusively to 48 HOURS (2023); Mary Shell, worked with Heuermann in the summer of 2010 (2023); John Parisi; grew up with Heuermann (2023); Antoine Amira, hotel food and beverage manager - Heuermann appeared on Bonjour Realty, Amira’s YouTube interview show (2023); Ray Tierney, district attorney, Suffolk County (2023); Lynn Barthelemy, Melissa Barthelemy’s mother (2011); Steven Cohen, then Barthelemy family attorney (2011); Liliana Waterman, Megan Waterman’s daughter (2020); Dave Schaller, Amber Costello’s roommate (2011); Rodney Harrison, police commissioner, Suffolk County (2023); Bob Macedonio, Asa Ellerup’s attorney (2023); Nikkie Brass, hairdresser, former escort who claims she was solicited by Heuermann, but fled from the restaurant where they met (2023); John Ray, attorney representing Nikkie Brass and the family of Shannan Gilbert; and Sherre Gilbert, Shannan Gilbert’s sister (2011). Gilbert’s body was found in December 2011, in the marsh not far from Gilgo Beach, but investigators don’t believe she was murdered. (See also: 48 HOURS MYSTERY: “Long Island Serial Killer”, OAD: 07/12/11, rebroadcast on 12/17/11 – included an update; 48 HOURS MYSTERY: “Long Island Serial Killer”, OAD: 06/23/12 - a follow-up report; 48 HOURS: “Long Island Serial Killer”, OAD: 07/20/13 - a second follow-up report; and 48 HOURS: “The Hunt for the Long Island Serial Killer”, OAD: 12/12/20 - a third follow-up report.) (C: Erin Moriarty – P: Betsy Shuller, Mary Ann Rotondi, Lauren A. White, Sarah Prior, Richard Fetzer, James Stolz) **36th SEASON PREMIERE**

CBS TELEVISION NETWORK
PUBLIC AFFAIRS BROADCASTS
SEPTEMBER 2023

Page 6 of 7

48 HOURS (continued)

- 09/16/23 **48 HOURS: “The Night of the Idaho Student Murders”** (10:00 – 11:00p) – a follow-up report to “The Idaho Student Murders”, detailing the latest developments and inside details surrounding the November 13th, 2022, murders of four University of Idaho students, as well as the case against Bryan Kohberger, charged with murdering Kaylee Goncalves, Ethan Chapin, Xana Kernodle and Madison Mogen. The four victims were all stabbed with a large knife in their off-campus home in Moscow, ID. DNA found on the knife sheath was tested against Kohberger’s father’s DNA, obtained from trash outside the Kohberger family home in Pennsylvania; results indicated a high probability of belonging to the biological father of the person who left their DNA on the knife sheath. The murder weapon has never been found. The judge entered a plea for Kohberger of not guilty. In August 2023, six weeks before the murder trial was set to begin, Kohberger waived his right to a speedy trial. **On-screen text graphic:** Bryan Kohberger’s trial date has not been set. Interviewed: Steve and Kristi Goncalves, Kaylee’s parents and sister Alivea Goncalves, who offer new details about the night of the murders and their own investigation; Jazzmin Kernodle, Xana’s sister and father Jeffrey Kernodle, in their first interview together; Howard Blum, investigative journalist who has written about the murders for Graydon Carter’s online magazine, “Air Mail” and is now writing a book on the case; and Bryanna Fox, professor of criminology, University of South Florida, CBS News consultant, and former FBI agent. Fox offers insight into the case and what Kohberger’s defense team may present at trial. Also includes footage of Stacy and Jim Chapin, Ethan’s parents, discussing the work of their foundation, Ethan’s Smile. (See also: 48 HOURS: “The Idaho Student Murders”, OAD: 01/07/23) (C: Peter Van Sant – P: Liza Finley, Mary Noonan, Ruth Chenetz)
- 09/23/23 PREEMPTION
- 09/30/23 **48 HOURS: “The Betrayal of Linda Slaten”** (9:00 – 10:00p) – a report on the murder of Linda Slaten, who was sexually assaulted and strangled, and how decades later, detectives and a DNA genealogist were able to catch her killer. On September 4th, 1981, 15-year-old Jeff and 12-year-old Tim Slaten were awakened by Lakeland, FL police and told that their mother had been murdered. Investigators collected a rape kit and lifted a palm print from the windowsill where the killer had entered. They questioned a slew of suspects, including her abusive ex-husband Frank Slaten and a boyfriend, but no one was charged. The case went cold. In 2019, nearly 40 years later, advances in DNA technology and a carefully stored rape kit revealed Linda’s killer: Joseph Clinton Mills, known as Coach Joe. Prior to and after Linda’s murder, Coach Joe would regularly drive Tim to and from football practice. He was a role model for Tim, who proudly hung up his football team photo in his room where Coach Joe stood right behind him. On December 12th, 2019, Joe Mills was arrested and claimed that his encounter with Linda was consensual. To avoid a trial and a possible death sentence, he pleaded guilty to all charges and was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole in February 2022. Original on-screen text graphic: The Slaten brothers often visit their mother’s grave. Jeff burns a candle next to a portrait of his mother every year on the anniversary of her death. **On-screen text graphic for the 09/30/23 rebroadcast:** The Slaten brothers often visit their mother’s grave. Jeff burns a candle next to a portrait of his mother every year on the anniversary of her death. Sergeant Edgar Pickett passed away in April 2023. Interviewed: Judy Butler, Linda Slaten’s younger sister; Jeff and Tim Slaten, Linda’s sons; Edgar Pickett, former sergeant and fingerprint expert, Lakeland Police Department, subjected to racism during his career; Brad Grice, former detective who worked on the case for 17 years, Lakeland Police Department; CeCe Moore, genetic genealogist; Tammy Hathcock, detective, Lakeland Police Department; and Russell Hurley, detective, Lakeland Police Department. (Contributor: Jim Axelrod – Producer: Mead Stone) (OAD: 12/03/22)

CBS TELEVISION NETWORK
PUBLIC AFFAIRS BROADCASTS
SEPTEMBER 2023

Page 7 of 7

48 HOURS (continued)

09/30/23

48 HOURS: “The Game Show and the Murder” (10:00 – 11:00p) - A report on the investigation into the February 2023 murder of Becky Bliefnick and the May 2023 murder trial of her estranged husband, Tim Bliefnick. Becky, a 41-year-old nurse and mother to three young boys, was found murdered in her Quincy, IL home during the afternoon of February 23rd, 2023. She was discovered by her father, who went to check on her after being contacted by Tim. Police determined that the intruder entered Becky’s residence via an upstairs window and kicked in the door to her room. Becky attempted to call 911 on her cell phone before she ran to the bathroom, where she was shot fourteen times by a 9-millimeter handgun. None of her wounds were immediately fatal; spent shell casings and plastic shreds were found around her body. The Bliefnick children, not at home at the time of the murder, were with their father about a mile away. The Bliefnicks were in the process of getting a divorce; Tim filed in January 2021, after 11 years of marriage. According to divorce documents, Tim and Becky fought over money, the marital home and custody of their three children; both parties sought orders of protection against one another and, in both cases, they were not granted. Ultimately, a judge ordered Tim and Becky to stay away from one another’s residences, except when enforcing child visitation schedules. Also ordered was the return of a 9-millimeter handgun that Becky had given to Tim as a gift, but it was never returned and Tim claimed to not know where it was. Becky had expressed her fear of Tim to others and prosecutors claimed that their text exchanges demonstrated emotional abuse on Tim’s part. Video surveillance, as well as a blue Schwinn bicycle found near Tim’s home, and a fake Facebook account linked to Tim, resulted in his arrest. The case and arrest generated media attention when it was revealed that Tim appeared on “Family Feud” in 2019 with his parents and brothers and joked about regretting his marriage when asked a question related to the game. Held without bond, he opted for a speedy trial, which began on May 23rd, 2023. Investigators determined the plastic shreds found around Becky’s body were from Aldi grocery store bags and linked DNA found on a piece of the plastic shreds to Tim, as well as DNA found under Becky’s fingernails. Prosecutors argued that the timing of the murder was significant and uncovered court documents which revealed Becky wanted to keep her father-in-law away from her children because he allegedly had a history of abusing children. Numerous damaging web searches by Tim were also presented by the prosecution. The defense argued that the evidence was circumstantial and could be explained as coincidences; no witnesses were called. The trial lasted six days and the jury found Tim guilty of first-degree murder; the judge sentenced him to life in prison. The Bliefnick children live with Becky’s parents. **On-screen text graphic:** Tim Bliefnick has not been allowed any contact with his kids since his arrest. (This broadcast also contains an on-screen in memoriam card: In Memory of Jay Pedinoff). Interviewed: Tim Bliefnick, interviewed just over a month after his conviction; Josh Jones, Adams County prosecutor; Laura Keck, Adams County prosecutor; Casey Schnack, Tim’s former divorce attorney, now defense attorney; Sarah Reilly, Becky’s sister; Bret Reilly, Becky’s brother-in-law; Taylor and Taylor Heimann, husband and wife and next door neighbors of Becky’s, whose outside security camera captured video alongside Becky’s house; and Shannon Zanger, Becky’s friend. (C: Erin Moriarty – P: Stephanie Slifer, Gabriella Demirdjian)
