

A portrait of Siria Gutiérrez, a woman with long, wavy brown hair, wearing glasses and a light blue blazer. She is looking slightly to the right of the camera.

NEVADA TRAILBLAZERS

Meet Siria Gutiérrez:

A Powerful Advocate for Mental and Physical Well-Being in Law

BY MARY BACON (SPENCER FANE LLP); MARISA RODRIGUEZ (CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS); AND RYAN GORMLEY (WEINBERG, WHEELER, HUDGINS, GUNN & DIAL, LLC)

Not satisfied with the status quo, Siria Gutiérrez has a passion for helping others reach their potential, including her clients, colleagues, and mentees. In law school, she co-founded an award-winning mentorship program that has had a lasting impact on the Nevada legal community. Now, in addition to her practice as a personal injury attorney, Gutiérrez has turned her attention toward helping the current generation of attorneys navigate life's challenges through mental health awareness.

Gutiérrez immigrated to northern California from Guatemala as a baby. Growing up in a household plagued by domestic violence and often serving as the mediator and translator for her family, school was not her top priority. Still, she would go on to be the first person in her family to attend college in the U.S.

Following high school, Gutiérrez initially enrolled at West Valley College in Saratoga, California, where she met a school counselor through the Extended Opportunity Program & Service, a state-funded program that aims to help low-income students

succeed in college. The counselor recognized her potential and challenged her to succeed. The counselor eventually encouraged Gutiérrez to apply to the University of California, Los Angeles. She followed his guidance and later graduated from UCLA with a bachelor's degree in history.

After college, Gutiérrez earned her law degree from the William S. Boyd School of Law at UNLV. There Gutiérrez, understanding first-hand the power mentorship can have on the life of a young person, along with other members of UNLV's *La Voz* group, founded *Huellas* in 2008. *Huellas*, which translates to "footprints," endeavors to grow the number of Latinos in the legal field through mentorship; namely, by pairing a local person with a J.D., a Boyd law student, an undergraduate student, and a high school student together to mentor and learn from each other. Given its outstanding track record, *Huellas* has received several awards and national acclaim.

Today, Gutiérrez practices as a personal injury attorney, having opened her own firm, Gutierrez Law, PLLC, during the past year, where she represents clients in personal injury and medical malpractice matters. She also assists content creators with their legal needs. Before forming her own firm,

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she acquired a decade of experience litigating personal injury matters from both sides of the law.

In addition to co-founding *Huellas*, Gutiérrez maintains a full schedule of community activities. She is an active member and past president of the Nevada Latino Bar Association (formerly the Las Vegas Latino Bar Association); serves as a board member at large for Soroptimist International Metropolitan Las Vegas, an international non-profit dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls throughout the world through education and empowerment; and most recently served on The Cupcake Girls' Las Vegas Advisory Board, a non-profit organization that provides confidential, nonjudgmental support to individuals involved in the sex industry through resources, referrals to partners/programs, and aftercare to those affected by sex trafficking.

More recently, Gutiérrez has discovered an affinity for online content creation focusing on the law and mental health. She co-hosts the podcast Pivotal Moments HQ, which focuses on sharing, exploring, and celebrating stories of change through mindset and wellness, and their impact on relationships. She also hosts *Lawyered with Siria*, a podcast for lawyers looking to transition out of the practice of law or to a more fulfilling practice area and for students looking to see the wide range of work that having a J.D. can offer.

"Siria's passion for mental health awareness influences nearly every aspect of her work," said Melissa Robiaina, the Pivotal Moments HQ co-host. "She utilizes the podcast as a platform to help normalize mental health issues by carefully unpacking subjects and topics that afflict many. Siria is excellent at creating safe spaces for people to share their story, while demonstrating compassion, empathy, and understanding for every guest we host on the show. Guests leave feeling validated, seen, and heard."

Over on TikTok, Gutiérrez advocates for mental and physical health practices, and she provides valuable information on basic legal terms, job ideas within the legal field, and things they did not teach in law school.

"I want to help as many people as possible and let them know they have the power to pivot at any point at any time in their lives," Gutiérrez said. "Sharing knowledge empowers others to take action for themselves."

When she is not litigating or creating content, Gutiérrez enjoys live theater, is a huge nerd/fan of the CW show "Supernatural," and loves traveling/spending time with her partner Matthew Meyer. You can check out her podcasts on Apple Podcasts and follow her on Instagram at [siria_gutierrez_esq](#) and on Tiktok [@notjustalawyer_siria](#).



Lucy Flores, Siria Gutiérrez, and Corina Rocha celebrate after their 2010 graduation from the William S. Boyd School of Law at UNLV.



Siria Gutiérrez (center) poses with the 2018 *Huellas* Mentorship Group. Gutiérrez founded the *Huellas* group when she was at Boyd.



Siria Gutiérrez and Matthew Meyer attend the Harry Potter show on Broadway.



Melissa Robiaina (right) and Siria Gutiérrez (left) are cohosts of the Pivotal Moments Podcast.