



Candidate Statement

REVIEWED

16 APR 22 AM 9:50
SECRETARY OF STATE
STATE OF IDAHO

Name: Judge Sergio Gutierrez
Office sought: Idaho Supreme Court
Campaign Contacts: www.vote4gutierrez.org; voteforgutierrez@gmail.com;
admin@voteforgutierrez.org; @vote4gutierrez

1. Biography – Qualifications

As an infant, I was brought to this great country by my parents. Aside from the gift of life, my parents' decision to bring me here was their greatest gift to me. I was raised by my grandmother in Carlsbad, New Mexico. We were very poor and lived in a shack, but we were rich with love. After she passed, I struggled through my teenage years. I dropped out of school to find work in the fields, and began to run with a rough crowd. I carry scars from those days which remind me of where I chose not to go.

Instead, I entered the Job Corps and learned that the construction trade could build self-respect too. I started a family of my own and moved to Idaho where I went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree, cum laude, in Elementary Education from Boise State University. I then earned a Juris Doctor from the University of California, Hastings School of Law in 1983.

I practiced civil law in southwest Idaho for ten years prior to being named to the Third District bench by Governor Cecil Andrus in 1993. In 2002, Governor Dirk Kempthorne appointed me to the Idaho Court of Appeals. My service on that Court has included three terms as Chief Judge. I have also served on the Idaho Supreme Court pro tem.

I have chaired, or co-chaired, the Idaho Supreme Court Fairness and Equality Committee, the Idaho Supreme Court Language Access Committee, and the Idaho Supreme Court Judicial Recruitment Committee. I am a past member of the Governor's Criminal Justice Commission and a member of the National Job Corps Hall of Fame.

Vote for Gutierrez Election Committee
Sara Berry, Treasurer
P.O. Box 2524
Boise, ID 83701
www.vote4gutierrez.org



2. Why vote for me? My top priorities?

Vote for me because experience matters! I have over twenty years' experience sitting as a judge in Idaho, as well as a unique life experience. My life experience is that of a Mexican immigrant, a former fieldworker who has known hunger and homelessness, an illegitimate child, a high school dropout, a teen parent, and a graduate of the Job Corps. I believe there must be a place for such experience on the Court. Those who are called upon to sit in judgment should deeply understand not only the law, but also the many paths a life can take.

I have built a record of independence, reasonableness, and integrity during my years as a judge by which my fitness for a seat on the Idaho Supreme Court can be easily measured. I am proud to stand on my decisions on the bench, the written opinions I have authored or joined, and my reputation as a member of the community.

As a Justice, I would continue in my commitment to applying the law fairly to the facts as they come – regardless of convenience or popularity. I would lead when necessary, build consensus when required, and be willing to stand alone (respectfully) when called to do so by principle and intellect.

My other priorities will include working to increase the average Idahoan's access to the court system and to offer more civic education and outreach through judicial resources. I will also continue my volunteer service aimed at increasing educational opportunities for our youth. I have learned, since my parents first brought me to the United States, that the American Dream is not about achievement so much as it is about opportunity. Making sure the youth of today have opportunities tomorrow should be a priority for us all.

I urge you all to vote in this important election, and I humbly request your consideration.

Sincerely,

Judge Sergio Gutierrez

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