

9TH UNPLUGGED

JULIO SEMINO

COURT SUPPORT MANAGER

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HOSTED BY: HONORABLE ALICIA L. LATIMORE

JUDGE LATIMORE: Hi, I'm Judge Latimore.

MR. SEMINO: And I'm Julio Semino.

JUDGE LATIMORE: And you're listening to 9th Unplugged.

(Music)

JUDGE LATIMORE: Before we unplug from work and dive into life outside of the courts, tell us your title and which department you work in?

MR. SEMINO: Sure. I'm the court support manager and I work pretty much in the court support department, which is communications and jury.

JUDGE LATIMORE: All right. And how long have you been doing that?

MR. SEMINO: I've been doing that for pretty much 10 years.

JUDGE LATIMORE: How did you get into the courts and working in this area?

MR. SEMINO: Well, actually, I was formally married to a court reporter and you know, one day she was like, hey, you could probably be a court interpreter. And I thought you know I had heard a bunch of transcripts of people interpreting and I thought, yeah, I could probably do that. And one thing led to another. I was hired on as an interpreter in the 7th Circuit, which is up in Volusia. And then eventually transferred to the 9th.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Wow, and it's history from there, right.

MR. SEMINO: That's all she wrote.

JUDGE LATIMORE: That's all she wrote. There's a lot more I'm sure, but let's go ahead and get unplugged. So where were you born and raised?

MR. SEMINO: Well, actually I was born in Havana, Cuba. You know obviously travelled around to get to the United States and got here in Miami by the time I was five years old. And pretty much, I was raised in Miami, which I think you're from Miami as well, right.

JUDGE LATIMORE: I think I was living there at some point, yes. And how long were you in Miami before you came to Orlando?

MR. SEMINO: Right. I was there until I was 21. And then I transferred up here.

JUDGE LATIMORE: And what do you miss about Miami?

MR. SEMINO: Okay, Miami is you know just a wild and fun city. I miss obviously more of the food because I'm Cuban so there was a lot more Cuban food down there.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Yes.

MR. SEMINO: Obviously, the family, my whole entire family lives down there.

JUDGE LATIMORE: They're still there.

MR. SEMINO: Except for you know like my kids and you know immediately family here. My whole family lives down there. I miss the close connection to the beach because you just hop on 836 and before you know it, South Beach. And just I think back when I was a kid Miami – it's all right, because back when I was a kid Miami was more like Orlando now so back then it was really bubbly. Now it's just like over, over populated but –

JUDGE LATIMORE: Yeah.

MR. SEMINO: I miss that.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Yeah, it seems like Orlando has kind of headed that way, right.

MR. SEMINO: Right.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Right. All right. So before you got into the court system, what were you doing as far as your career?

MR. SEMINO: Oh, well I was you know a sort of stay at home dad, working – like I said, my wife was a court reporter and we had a firm. So it was probably office manager you would call it, running the business.

JUDGE LATIMORE: All right. What do you do for fun when you're not at work?

MR. SEMINO: When I'm not at work, a little bit of everything. I like playing pool. I like playing tennis.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Are you good?

MR. SEMINO: I'm decent, you know, I'm better than – I'm better than your average bear but you know no pro status at all. And then I like, obviously watching TV. I like cooking, but not every day cooking. I like purposeful cooking.

JUDGE LATIMORE: What's your secret talent?

MR. SEMINO: Secret talent. I really don't have like a secret, secret talent.

JUDGE LATIMORE: I see here something about gardening.

MR. SEMINO: Well, I am pretty good at gardening. I've got a mango tree, papaya trees, key lime, lemon, pineapple –

JUDGE LATIMORE: Wow.

MR. SEMINO: A little bit of –

JUDGE LATIMORE: All on your home property?

MR. SEMINO: All in my backyard, yeah.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Backyard.

MR. SEMINO: No, backyard because you don't want people to get those fruits in the front yard.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Right, because if I'd come by your mango tree, I'm definitely raiding it, okay.

MR. SEMINO: Right.

JUDGE LATIMORE: I notice here that you also lived in four countries by the age of five.

MR. SEMINO: I did. I did. So I was born in Cuba, went to Spain. We were trying to come to the United States. Back then there was a quota system. It was pretty strict and a lot of Cubans were going to Spain, then went to Venezuela, and then eventually ended up here.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Okay.

MR. SEMINO: All by five.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Now, do you travel a lot?

MR. SEMINO: You know, I didn't really travel that much before, but whenever I get a chance, I do. So I've been to you know a bunch of places.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Is there anywhere that you'd like to visit you haven't had a chance yet?

MR. SEMINO: I haven't seen the Grand Canyon yet and I haven't seen believe it or not, Niagara Falls.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Niagara.

MR. SEMINO: So both of those I want to do.

JUDGE LATIMORE: You definitely have to get those in. Tell me, how do you pick yourself back up after making a mistake?

MR. SEMINO: Okay, well, you just got to own it. You just got to say it happened. What did I do wrong? Do a little self-assessment and then plan what am I going to do next time differently. So I think being honest about the mistake.

JUDGE LATIMORE: And what challenges you in life?

MR. SEMINO: Challenges. You know I think you always want the best for your kids so I think it challenges, you know making sure that they reach that place where you can kind of finally let go but it seems like you never let go kind of thing. So I think – I think that's my challenge, making sure they make it.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Now, you're a recent empty nester, correct.

MR. SEMINO: Correct.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Oh, how old are your kids now?

MR. SEMINO: My kids are 23 and 21.

JUDGE LATIMORE: And what are they up to?

MR. SEMINO: Well, my daughter is a nurse. She works for Advent Health and my son is finishing up his – he's going to be a radio – x-ray tech.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Oh, okay. So you're a proud dad.

MR. SEMINO: Yeah. Yeah, they're pretty good.

JUDGE LATIMORE: How are you enjoying empty nest life?

MR. SEMINO: Good. I have a lot of free time, especially now with you know, this last year has been a little interesting dealing with COVID and so I'm a little busier than I was before outside of the home.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Do you believe there's life on other planets?

MR. SEMINO: You know I'm sure there is life on another planet. I just don't think it's anywhere nearby.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Would you like to meet anyone from another planet?

MR. SEMINO: That remains to be seen, depends on if they're nice or not.

JUDGE LATIMORE: If a Genie gave you three wishes, what would they be?

MR. SEMINO: Okay, it's the wish to be able to have unlimited wishes.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Nice.

MR. SEMINO: That's wish number one. But if that's not allowed definitely you know unlimited money, be able to be health free for me and my family, and I would just put in world peace there just to do the competition thing.

JUDGE LATIMORE: And do you have pets?

MR. SEMINO: I used to have pets but the empty nester took the pet with her.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Okay.

MR. SEMINO: Yeah.

JUDGE LATIMORE: And what kind of pet did you have?

MR. SEMINO: I used to have a cat.

JUDGE LATIMORE: If you could have an exotic pet, what would it be?

MR. SEMINO: You know I would love to have a Cheetah. I think they are just cool, love to see it run like in person, you know, take off. Yeah, I think Cheetah for sure.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Great. And you have a pet peeve?

MR. SEMINO: There are many pet peeves but I think my number one pet peeve would be people's driving styles.

JUDGE LATIMORE: And tell me more about that.

MR. SEMINO: You know, let's see, not putting proper –

JUDGE LATIMORE: No road rage, right.

MR. SEMINO: No, no, no.

JUDGE LATIMORE: You're not doing road rage, right?

MR. SEMINO: No, no, none of that. Yeah, going 25 in the fast lane, you know, not putting on your signal quickly...

JUDGE LATIMORE: Oh, that one gets me.

MR. SEMINO: Drives me crazy. Cutting at the last minute. Like oh, I need to go there and you're in the left-hand lane. Just those sorts of things.

JUDGE LATIMORE: All right, I have to share that with you, I'm in agreement with you on a lot of those. Do you have a favorite holiday?

MR. SEMINO: I think Thanksgiving is probably one of my favorite holidays.

JUDGE LATIMORE: And why is that?

MR. SEMINO: And it's because everybody likes to sit down and eat food. You know we always have the day off, at least here, so Friday you can take time off. And then generally I do a little cyber shopping so it's all in one.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Oh, yes, bang for your buck on Thanksgiving, right.

MR. SEMINO: Black Friday, yes, it is.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Well, thanks so much for being unplugged with me.

MR. SEMINO: Thank you.

(Music)