

Norberto: Being an immigrant to this country, I felt that I had the responsibility to show my gratitude and do things in this community to make it better. The success you have, it comes with a debt in a way, because the community has been supportive of you and you want to give back. Even as recently as yesterday, I did a guardianship for a disabled child and when we were done with the hearing, and I'd come back to my office, I actually got a text thanking me for the great job I had done for them and for caring so much about them. That's kind of a tugs at your heart moment. It made me feel that I had chosen the right profession. It made me feel like what I do matters.

My name is Norberto Katz, and I am an attorney here in Orlando. I went to law school at a school called Mississippi College School of Law. I was actually the first Hispanic to graduate from that law school. I'd always had an interest in the dynamics of the family, and I enjoy dealing with people and helping them when they're at a very delicate emotional state and they really need support and assistance.

When I graduated law school I got an opportunity to join one of the best family law attorneys in Orlando. I learned a great deal from him. I was actually partnered with David Veliz for a number of years. I actually met him when we were on opposite sides and we became friends and then I had an opportunity to be appointed as a Judicial Hearing Officer, and I served in that capacity for about 19 years in the ninth circuit, both in Orange and Osceola County. I've been on both sides of the aisle. I saw very many good lawyers and some not so good. And learned a lot about what I think would make me a better lawyer should I go back to the practice.

The probate and guardianship areas were something I was very interested in. Very similar to family law in many ways. Being fluent in Spanish and Portuguese also, I thought I could serve that community as well. When I decided that I wanted to go back to the practice and represent people and be in a court room, it was a very natural decision for me to talk to David and come back to the firm. This is home for me.