

Biography of the Honorable Philip S. Gutierrez
United States District Court, Central District of California

Chief U.S. District Judge Philip S. Gutierrez attended the University of Notre Dame from 1977 to 1981. He then attended the UCLA School of Law from 1981 to 1984. After graduating from law school, Chief Judge Gutierrez entered private practice. In 1988, he joined the law firm of Cotkin & Collins, where he became the managing partner of the Santa Ana offices. His practice concentrated in complex business litigation, professional malpractice liability, and insurance coverage issues.

In 1997, California Governor Pete Wilson appointed Chief Judge Gutierrez to the Whittier Municipal Court. After the unification of the Los Angeles court system in 2000, he served as a Los Angeles Superior Court Judge. During this time, Chief Judge Gutierrez actively participated in various judicial committees and enjoyed several teaching assignments. In 2007, he was nominated by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the United States Senate to serve on the United States District Court for the Central District of California. In June 2020, he assumed the position of Chief U.S. District Judge.