

9<sup>TH</sup> UNPLUGGED

JENNIFER HOUGH

JUDICIAL ASSISTANT

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HOSTED BY: HONORABLE ALICIA L. LATIMORE

JUDGE LATIMORE: Hi, I'm Judge Latimore.

MS. HOUGH: I'm Jennifer Hough.

JUDGE LATIMORE: And you're listening to 9<sup>th</sup> Unplugged.

(Music)

JUDGE LATIMORE: So before we unplug from work, and dive into life outside the courts, tell me or tell us your title and what department you work in.

MS. HOUGH: I am the judicial assistant to Judge Alice Blackwell. We are in domestic violence right now.

JUDGE LATIMORE: And when you're not at work, when you're plugged out of that job, what is it that you spend most of your time doing?

MS. HOUGH: Oh, my goodness. Hanging with my family.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Hanging with your family.

MS. HOUGH: Yeah.

JUDGE LATIMORE: What are the lessons that your work life taught you?

MS. HOUGH: Patience.

JUDGE LATIMORE: That's always good to have.

MS. HOUGH: Yeah. Organization. Not procrastinating.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Oh, okay. Tell me what's your most memorable experience during childhood.

MS. HOUGH: Oh, goodness.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Anything that you can remember that was just awesome, you experienced it, would love to do it again.

MS. HOUGH: Probably traveling, not any in particular trip, but I think that was probably what was the most memorable.

JUDGE LATIMORE: And what's one of your favorite places to visit?

MS. HOUGH: Acapulco.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Oh, what's so special about Acapulco?

MS. HOUGH: It was just beautiful. The beaches, the relaxation.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Yeah. And how would you like to be remembered?

MS. HOUGH: God loving.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Oh, that's awesome. If you won the lotto, like I mean the big lotto, power ball, all this money that you couldn't even imagine, can't count the zeros. Tell me what's the first thing you would buy.

MS. HOUGH: I would buy a boat and a plane because it would be something that not only I could use to travel but it's something that I could make available to other people to be able to travel.

JUDGE LATIMORE: What are some of the small things that make your day better?

MS. HOUGH: When my husband texts me just out of the blue to say I love you.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Oh, that is beautiful.

MS. HOUGH: Yeah.

JUDGE LATIMORE: That is beautiful. Tell me some of your personal rules that you will never break.

MS. HOUGH: I will not lie. I do not reveal secrets. I guess integrity is just the biggest one.

JUDGE LATIMORE: You don't reveal secrets.

MS. HOUGH: Unh-unh.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Tell me a secret about yourself.

MS. HOUGH: Nice try. I have been called the vault so that's a compliment to me.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Oh, because you keep secrets so well.

MS. HOUGH: Because if it's something you tell me and don't want it shared, that's where it's stuffed.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Can you tell me your favorite movie?

MS. HOUGH: Bridesmaids.

JUDGE LATIMORE: And why?

MS. HOUGH: It's just hysterical. It's absolutely hysterical. It was between Bridesmaids and Bad Moms.

JUDGE LATIMORE: If there is something you wish you would never have to do ever again, what would that be?

MS. HOUGH: Have open-heart surgery.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Okay. All right. And which season of the year is your favorite?

MS. HOUGH: Fall.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Why is that?

MS. HOUGH: I love the cooling down. It's – winter has so much of the hustle and bustle, getting ready for Christmas and things like that, but Thanksgiving, it's a season – changing of the seasons, the heat starts to go away. I love the fall colors, the smells, all of those things and just love Thanksgiving. It's my favorite holiday.

JUDGE LATIMORE: It's one of my favorites too.

MS. HOUGH: Yeah.

JUDGE LATIMORE: And it's probably very popular with a lot of people. But it is absolutely one of my favorite times of the year as well. I look forward to it.

MS. HOUGH: Yes.

JUDGE LATIMORE: The problem is I want to be unplugged all during fall, okay. How would you like to – I mean, how would you like your children to grow up to become? What is it that you look for them in the future, or your child?

MS. HOUGH: I want him to be a servant for God, first and foremost above everything else. I want him to find a career that he enjoys, that he's passionate about. And I want him to have a wife and a family that he just feels completely fulfilled with.

JUDGE LATIMORE: What are your top two rules for navigating your life?

MS. HOUGH: Keeping my priorities in line and following those, and again, just living my life with integrity.

JUDGE LATIMORE: If you had a super hero power, what would it be? That's a good one, huh?

MS. HOUGH: Yeah, I don't know the answer to that one.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Okay, that's fair. That's fair. And if you think about it, you come on back around and let me know, all right.

MS. HOUGH: Okay.

JUDGE LATIMORE: What's your best tip for making the world a better place? Just following up on that super hero power, what's your best tip for making the world a better place?

MS. HOUGH: Treat others the way you want to be treated.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Okay. All right. And do you speak any different languages?

MS. HOUGH: I don't.

JUDGE LATIMORE: You do not. Was there ever a language that you wanted to learn?

MS. HOUGH: I would love to have learned sign language.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Okay. And the reason why? Any particular reason why sign language?

MS. HOUGH: I think when I was younger it was just kind of your own secret way that you could communicate and nobody had to hear or know that you were doing it. And it's just fascinating to me.

JUDGE LATIMORE: All right. What's the best and the worst thing about getting older?  
Not old, older.

MS. HOUGH: The best thing about getting older is that I'm learning to appreciate things that I just would have gone past, when I was younger, just appreciating everything that you do and everything that you see, and everybody around and I think I just value the time more. The worst part is the aches and pains.

JUDGE LATIMORE: That is fair. That is absolutely fair. So if you were able to get a quick weekend getaway, where would you go?

MS. HOUGH: Probably Jamaica.

JUDGE LATIMORE: And what is it about Jamaica that you like so much?

MS. HOUGH: I love the music, I love the air, I love the beach. I just – it's just – it's truly a place that when I have been there, I have been able to mentally unplug. It's just very relaxing. I love the beach.

JUDGE LATIMORE: You love the beach.

MS. HOUGH: Um-hum.

JUDGE LATIMORE: And what do you do at the beach when you go?

MS. HOUGH: As little as possible.

JUDGE LATIMORE: There you go. Do you have a favorite food?

MS. HOUGH: Italian and tacos would probably be my two.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Okay, and do you cook?

MS. HOUGH: I cook some. I'm not by any means one of these that creates new recipes or really just enjoys getting in the kitchen, but I do enjoy eating at home. So for that benefit, cooking is beneficial.

JUDGE LATIMORE: And Italian or tacos are part of the meal or menu on occasion.

MS. HOUGH: Yes, absolutely.

JUDGE LATIMORE: All right.

MS. HOUGH: Absolutely.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Which is your favorite Italian dish?

MS. HOUGH: Probably spaghetti.

JUDGE LATIMORE: All right. If your life was made into a movie, which actor would play you?

MS. HOUGH: If I could have a wish, it would be Jennifer Aniston.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Oh, okay. All right, I mean, she kind of resembles you or you resemble her.

MS. HOUGH: Oh, well, that's awfully kind of you to say.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Yes. I can see that, okay. And what is it about her that you would pick her?

MS. HOUGH: I just think she's hysterical. I'm a huge Friends fan and in the movies that she's played in, I just have enjoyed the characters depending upon what kind of movie it is, I think she does a great job.



JUDGE LATIMORE: What are you proudest of about you in your life?

MS. HOUGH: My faith and my family.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Wow. And now all of those are important.

MS. HOUGH: Um-hum.

JUDGE LATIMORE: Okay. Well, it's been a wonderful opportunity to have a chance to speak with you --

MS. HOUGH: Thank you.

JUDGE LATIMORE: - while you are unplugged from the Ninth and so right now, we're going to make sure that you're good to go to plug back in.

MS. HOUGH: Awesome.

JUDGE LATIMORE: All right.

MS. HOUGH: Thank you.

JUDGE LATIMORE: You're welcome. You have a good day.

MS. HOUGH: You too.

(Music)