

Phillip S. Molina Biography

My name is Phillip Molina, an 18 year resident of Oxnard, a Certified Public Accountant (CPA). I served as the former Finance Director for the City of Oxnard for two years, and I am currently a member of Oxnard American Legion Post 48.

I was born in France, but raised in California. I went to high school at Dinuba Union High School (DHS) in California. I was elected to be DHS Boys' State representative to the State Capitol in 1964, and learned a great deal about California State government through my educational experience that week in Sacramento offered. I attended Valparaiso University in northern Indiana on a scholarship from 1965 to 1969 and graduated with a pre-law and political science double major. I married my beautiful wife, Linda in June 1969 and she stayed with me for 44 years before her death in 2013.

I served in the U.S. Army from 1969 to 1972. I took basic training at Fort Leonard Wood; Advanced Artillery training (AAT) at Fort Sill, and graduated from Combat Engineer's Officer Candidate School (OCS) at Fort Belvoir. I finished my enlistment at Fort Carson, Colorado because I accepted the offer for an "early out" to return to graduate school.

I am a Certified Public Accountant; but I retired in 2012 so I could help my wife Linda battle a serious illness. I am reactivating my license. I am a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), a member of the California CPA Society, and a member of the Illinois CPA Society. I have earned a Masters Degree in Business Administration (MBA) from Golden Gate University, California in 1990. My professional accounting credentials have been verified and presented in court by the California State Bureau of Security and Investigative Services (BSIS) at my request.

I have worked as an Illinois State Insurance Auditor, the Chief Accountant for the Illinois State Department of Health, Division for Grants Management, and as a city Finance Director/Treasurer/Administrative Services Director for over 25 years for the four cities of Paso Robles, Dublin, Hollister and Oxnard. I also gained valuable municipal management experience by serving as an interim city manager for 9 months while the city of Paso Robles recruited a new city manager.

I worked for the City of Oxnard from December 1997 until November 1999, when I was illegally fired from the City of Oxnard for telling the complete financial truth. That truth involved telling both the then City Manager and City Council that the city's golf course was using millions of dollars from the city's general fund, a fact that then Mayor Tom Holden and then City Manager Ed Sotelo did not want the rest of the council nor the taxpaying public to hear.

Fighting in court to secure my First Amendment rights and municipal whistle-blowing obligations, I successfully battled the City of Oxnard, winning four times in Federal District court, including twice at the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals and twice at district trials with the last battle ending in a settlement by the City of Oxnard.

As a candidate for Oxnard City Treasurer, my campaign platform is straight forward: maximum protection of city taxpayer dollars, minimize risk of city investment portfolio performance, maximum return of city investment dollar earnings, and maximize public awareness before disbursing your tax dollars!

