

# Roselyn Estepa Ibanez

Roselyn (Rose) Estepa Ibanez is an active member of the Filipino American for over 35 years. As a college student, she was involved with San Diego State Samahan and later taught the first Filipino American Experience/History class. In 1974, she was the first Co-Chair of Kababayan at UC Irvine and was elected to serve as the Southern California representative to the West Coast Confederation of Filipino Students, a coalition of over 40 Filipino American student organizations throughout the west coast.

During late 70's to 80's, Rose was a strong opponent against Marcos' Martial Law in the Philippines, fought against the Simpson/Mazzoli Immigration bill, opposed the Bakke/reverse discrimination case, and advocated for more Filipino administrators for the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD).

She continued to be a community advocate for affirmative action and social justice after college and played a leading role in immigrant rights and Filipino foreign-trained nurses' issues. Rose was a strong opponent against Marcos' Martial Law in the Philippines, the Simpson/Mazzoli Immigration bill, and Bakke case during the late 1970s and 1980s. She has advocated for more Filipino administrators for the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and demanded that they address the high school dropout rates of our youth. She is currently the Chairwoman of the Board for the Filipino American Library located in Historic Filipinotown. The Library is one of a small handful of special libraries with a collection of Filipino American books and materials. Rose also sits on the Los Angeles County Community Action Board (CAB) as a public sector appointee for Supervisor Gloria Molina. During the 2006 Festival of Philippine Arts & Culture she received the Public Service Award from Fil-Am ARTS, 2007 One of 100 Most Influential Filipino Women Leaders by Filipina Women's Network, and 2010 Assemblymember Warren Furutani's 55<sup>th</sup> District Woman of the Year.

As a committed public servant, she has been employed for over 24 years with the City and County of Los Angeles working for various departments and elected officials, most notably County Board of Supervisor Gloria Molina for 8 ½ years. As an elected official staff, she ensured residents receive basic services and assisted in the development of legislation. In the City of Los Angeles for Councilmember Gloria Molina, Rose was responsible for areas such as, Temple/Beaudry, MacArthur Park, and Pico Union and was a liaison to the Filipino American community. As Molina's senior field deputy in the County of Los Angeles, she was responsible for the San Gabriel Valley area which composed of 11 cities and 7 unincorporated areas and focused on issues addressing

basic City and County services, crime and gang problems, curfew/truancy enforcement, parent/counseling needs, and department accountability.

After leaving Supervisor Molina's office, Rose returned to the City and worked as a Neighborhood Empowerment Analyst for the City's Department of Neighborhood Empowerment working with Neighborhood Councils in the Harbor, South, and West areas. She then moved to the Housing Department, she is the Project Coordinator of the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) that over saw over \$29 million HUD funded program and monitored agencies providing financial assistance through prevention or rapid re-housing/stabilization services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness and is currently working on the Emergency Solutions Grant implementing Family Solutions Centers throughout LA County for homeless families. Rose continued to work in the Housing Department (later changed to Housing and Community Investment Department) in the Homeless Services Department and administered a budget of over \$75 million of City, County, State and Federal funding to provide services and resources to the various non-profit through the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) before Rose retired in July 2020 with over 30 years of public service.

Also, she was a County Community Action Board member as County Supervisor Molina's appointee. In the City of Carson, she served as Chair of City of Carson's Community Civic Engagement Board and was a former Carson Planning Commissioner as an appointee from the first Filipina Councilwoman Lorelie Olaes.

Rose is married to Florante for 47 years and they co-authored a pictorial history book, *Filipinos in Carson and the South Bay*. They have two daughters. The eldest daughter, Gabriela and her husband Hoan Vinh (both UC Irvine alumni) have two sons, Cleto BaoQuy and Liam BaoMinh. Their younger daughter, Mikaela is an alumna of UC Santa Barbara and is currently a Management Analyst for the City of Los Angeles Department of Aging.

Rose received her BA in Sociology from Loyola Marymount University, studied at the Cambridge Social of Change under Dr. Daniel Boone Schirmer's Philippine-U.S. Relations Master's program and received her Master's degree in Public Administration with honors at CSU Long Beach.

