

## **Sharkey Family Collection**

Finding aid created by Contra Costa County Historical Society staff using RecordEXPRESS

Contra Costa County Historical Society

724 Escobar Street

Martinez, California 94553

9252291042

info@cocohistory.com

<http://www.cocohistory.com/>

2021

---

## **Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Sharkey Family Collection

**Dates:** 1865-1990s

**Collection Number:** 2011.36

**Creator/Collector:**

**Extent:** 31 boxes, 18 cu feet

**Repository:** Contra Costa County Historical Society  
Martinez, California 94553

**Abstract:** The Sharkey Family Collection consists of personal correspondence, political and legal documents, newspaper clippings, and ephemera connected to State Senator William R Sharkey and family, spanning from the early 1900s to the 1990s.

**Language of Material:** English

### **Access**

Collection is open for research.

### **Publication Rights**

Contact the Contra Costa County Historical Society for publication permission.

### **Preferred Citation**

Sharkey Family Collection. Contra Costa County Historical Society

### **Scope and Content of Collection**

While the collection includes documents and news stories connected to Sharkey's state senate activities, the bulk of the collection consists of personal correspondence between his son, Sharkey Jr, and his fiancée (later wife), Dorothy Jessen, 1925 –1951. In addition, the collection contains information on Sharkey Jr.'s military service, enrollment at Stanford University, and as an employee at the DMV. Other materials include greeting cards, audiotapes, and photographs of the Sharkey family, their friends, and colleagues.

### **Indexing Terms**

correspondence, personal  
documents, political  
documents, legal  
documents, military  
Sharkey, William R.  
Jessen, Dorothy  
Martinez News-Gazette  
Stanford University  
Department of Motor Vehicles  
California Rivers and Harbors Commission  
photographs  
personal papers  
newspaper clippings  
letters  
postcards  
postcards  
California State Senator  
newspaper editor

[Guide to Collection](#)

---