

## New York's Elardo Named 2004 Notary of the Year Honoree



By Nevin Barich

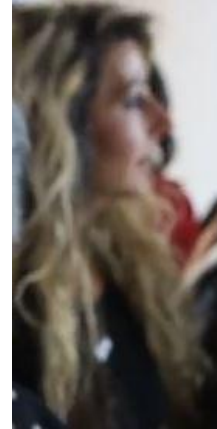
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Dina Elardo had no idea she would eventually become the founder and CEO of a Notary company, helping the careers of thousands of Notaries, when she came across a notarial law book while teaching at Hunter Business School in Levittown.

She was simply planning to head up the paralegal program when she first saw a copy of the NNA's *New York Notary Law Primer*. Elardo thought it might be a good idea to incorporate the book into her new class curriculum, but her boss had a better plan.

"He told me to just go ahead and teach a separate Notary class," Elardo said.

Now owner of Notary Public Central, a company in which all the employees were taught by its founder, Elardo has been conducting Notary seminars for six years, explaining to an average of 100 people a week what it takes to become a Notary. In her seminars, Elardo, a mother of twins, goes beyond discussing what's needed to pass Notary commission exams and basic procedures, focusing more on "real world" dealings to help Notaries prepare for potential obstacles they may face.



**Notary Of The Year Honoree Dina Elardo**

Sadi Vidro has been a Notary since 1979, but even with all his experience, he said taking Elardo's seminar really helped him to gain perspective on the Notary office.

"Taking Dina's seminar gave me added confidence in my conduct as a Notary and convinced me to be more careful in my work," Vidro said.

Despite the pressures of running a company and being a mother, Elardo found time to complete her MBA in business management and conducts training seminars for Fortune 500 companies.

When she's not busy with work and motherhood, Elardo has spent time talking with legislators about New York's identity theft problem and pushing for a Notary journal requirement in the state.