



In this 35th year following the creation of Notary Public Day, American Society of Notaries (ASN) and Notary Public Underwriters (NPU) wish to “Celebrate Notaries!” by co-sponsoring a 2009 Notary Public Day Essay Contest, “Why I’m Proud to be a Notary Public.”

This is a fun and fulfilling opportunity for you to share your pride in being commissioned as a Notary Public, by describing why the duties you perform make you so proud to be one of America’s most highly utilized and trusted public officers.



2009 “Why I’m Proud to be a Notary Public” Essay Contest Guidelines and Official Rules

Three winning entries will be chosen:
Grand Prize Winner • Runner-Up • Honorable Mention

All award winners receive a signed Certificate of Recognition. Additional winning benefits include:

Grand Prize

- \$150 cash award
- Profile in *American Notary* newsletter
- Notary Public Day Lapel Pin
- Free, one-year ASN membership (or extension for existing member)
- ASN logo briefcase full of great notary supplies provided by ASN and NPU

Runner Up

- Notary Public Day Lapel Pin
- Profile in *American Notary* newsletter

Essay Contest Eligibility:

- a) To enter the 2009 “Why I’m Proud to be a Notary Public” essay content, you **MUST** be a currently commissioned, United States notary public whose commission term will continue without lapse at least through the month of November 2009.

Submission Guidelines:

- a) Written essay describing, in 250 words or less, “Why I’m Proud to be a Notary Public.”
- b) The following contact information must be submitted with your essay: name, mailing address, state where commissioned if different from mailing address, email address, daytime phone. We will utilize your email address to confirm receipt of your essay, or will confirm receipt via telephone or U.S. Mail.
- c) Please retain a copy of your essay for your records; submitted essays will not be returned.

Deadline for Submissions:

- a) Essays must be RECEIVED or POSTMARKED no later than October 16, 2009.

Award Notification and Announcement:

- a) Winners will be notified by October 26, 2009. Winners will be announced on November 2, 2009.

Disqualification:

Your essay may be disqualified if:

1. It is not on the topic.
2. You fail to follow any one of the submission guidelines above.
3. It is postmarked after the deadline of October 16, 2009.
4. It plagiarizes—that is, uses someone else's statements or ideas as your own.
5. You do not meet the Contest Eligibility requirements at the time the Essay Contest results are announced or publicized.

Where/How to Send Your Essay:

By Mail

American Society of Notaries
2009 Essay Contest
P. O. Box 5707
Tallahassee, FL 32314-5707

By Email

kathleen@asnnotary.org

OTHER ESSAY CONTEST CONSIDERATIONS:

- a) Essays will be judged by the Board and staff members of the American Society of Notaries and Notary Public Underwriters, Inc. The decisions of the judges are final.
- b) By entering the 2009 "Why I'm Proud to be a Notary Public" Essay Contest, you are agreeing to all the terms and guidelines contained herein. You further agree that your winning essay may be reproduced, in whole or in part, by ASN or NPU for promotional purposes, in any media, without limitation and without further payment or consideration except where prohibited by law. Your essay will not be reproduced in any manner without crediting your authorship.
- c) ASN will request confirmation of the Essay Contest winners' active notary commission prior to notification or announcement of the winners. An active commission status through the month of November 2009 MUST be confirmed or the essay will be disqualified.
- d) Odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries received.
- e) By your participation in the 2009 "Why I'm Proud to be a Notary Public" Essay Contest, you agree to hold harmless American Society of Notaries and Notary Public Underwriters, Inc., their Board and owners, employees, agents and affiliates from any claim or cause of action arising out of participation in the contest or receipt or use of any prize, either directly or indirectly.