



Marie Zere

Zere Associates

The president of the only solely women-owned commercial and industrial real estate firm on Long Island, Zere weathered the real estate bust of the late 1980s to emerge as one of the key players in today's booming market, with such clients as Northrop Grumman, Apple Bank, Home Federal Savings and Loan and Touro Law Center. Her full customer roster ranges from such top insurance companies as New York Life to one of the largest residential and commercial builders on the Island, the Beechwood Organization.

The past president of the Commercial Industrial Real Estate Society of Long Island, Zere is on the board of governors of the New York State Commercial Association of Realtors. She is an active member of the Long Island Mid-Suffolk Business Action, the Long Island Builders Institute and the Long Island Association. She serves on the boards of the Girl Scout Council of Suffolk County and Promote Long Island, and is involved with Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Long Island and most recently on the board of Women in Science and Engineering.

She is co-founder of Suffolk County Republican Women and has received the Distinguished Achievement in the Field of Business Award from the Town of Islip. She was also honored by APPLE, A Planned Program for Life Enrichment and is a recipient of Long Island Business News' Distinguished Leadership Award.

A native Long Islander, Zere's love of art stretches back to her childhood, when the Village of Massapequa Park adopted the 13-year-old's design for the official village seal, still displayed today on village vehicles, stationary and the village hall.

Zere and her husband, Fred Russo, live in Branch and have seven children and six grandchildren between them. Zere's two sons and one daughter have all followed Mom's footsteps into real estate.