

Megan Cullen is a 30-year resident of Santa Ynez Valley and an expert in international trade. She graduated from Portland State University with a degree in Spanish, with minors in French, German and Dutch and a strong emphasis on the sciences. She is also certified in Marketing through University of California, Santa Barbara and is a Certified Global Business Professional. Cullen was appointed in January 2010 by the U.S. Commerce Secretary of State Gary Locke, to the District Export Council of Southern California (DECSC), and was re-appointed in 2013 and 2018. She currently serves as Secretary and Vice Chair, Central Coast.

Cullen has her own consulting firm, SYV Consulting & Marketing, is the Program Coordinator for the Global T Program providing global trade education to high school students on the Central Coast and an SBDC Consultant.

She began her work in international trade and learned the art of processing letters of credit with a position at a lumber-exporting, woman-owned business in Portland, Oregon. Her experience processing million dollar plus letters of credit stood her well in two later local positions in international sales as Manager and Sales Supervisor for a local Rescue Equipment company in Goleta, where she managed company sales and distribution to a network of 80 distributors worldwide and as the International Sales/Marketing Manager at a local scientific equipment manufacturer in Goleta, handling a large international dealer network selling to universities, research institutions and governmental agencies worldwide.

Cullen has extensive translation experience working with the Latin American Chamber of Commerce in Oregon, the Oregon courts, several international law offices, as well as two Venezuelan manufacturing companies.

Cullen has received the following awards: DEC Member of the Year (2012 and 2017); DEC Chair's Award – Excellence in Leadership (2015); WIT-LA Innovative Woman Exporter of the Year (2014); the DEC/U.S. Dept. of Commerce "Certificate of Excellence" (2013); and the California State Legislature's "Export Excellence" Award (2011).

Her current interests include promotion of export training, science education, and tourism on the Central Coast. She is a member of Women in International Trade – Los Angeles.

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