



**U.S. Small Business Administration Names
Cathy Daugherty
*Region IX Women in Business Champion of the Year***



SANTA ANA, CA – Cathy Daugherty, a partner at Trademark Insurance in Anaheim, CA, has been named *Region IX Women in Business Champion of the Year* by the U.S. Small Business Administration’s Santa Ana District Office. Region IX includes Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Hawaii and Guam. Her selection was announced by J. Adalberto Quijada, District Director who commended Ms. Daugherty for her valuable contributions to women’s programs. Ms. Daugherty was nominated by Barri Carian, former President of the National Association of Women Business Owners, Orange County Chapter.

Ms. Daugherty was selected for her untiring efforts to increase business and financial opportunities for women, advocacy of legislation that would benefit and protect women in business and her volunteer work to strengthen the role of women in the business community. She has seized every opportunity to make a difference. When Ms. Daugherty started her business as an independent insurance broker in 1991, she immediately became involved in her industry’s grassroots advocacy for health care. She began to travel annually to Washington, D.C. and Sacramento to explain the needs of employers and employees concerning the affordability and accessibility of health care. Ms. Daugherty took part in drafting legislation that has been mentioned in the State of the Union address twice and was adopted by both candidates in the recent Presidential election. She is a passionate supporter of business issues at the local, state and federal levels, and is committed to the advancement of women in business issues.

In 1995, Ms. Daugherty became a member of NAWBO and quickly took on leadership roles and lobbied on behalf of women’s interests. As the President of NAWBO-OC in 2005-2006, her slogan was “The answers are here!” She works to encourage and support all women business owners with the answers and connections to grow their businesses. Under her leadership and direction, membership grew by 75% and revenues increased by 80%.

As a successful executive, Ms. Daugherty encourages her peers to utilize SBA's various resources. Through the use of an SBA loan, Ms. Daugherty purchased her office building five years ago. She has spoken on numerous panels to promote the benefits of entrepreneurship to women and has been a supportive advocate of the SBA in the process. She has also taken advantage of SCORE classes and counseling and recommended those services to others.

Ms. Daugherty has held numerous board positions, has extended herself as a mentor to countless women and has advocated relentlessly for women-owned businesses in the public policy arena. She serves as a Wishgranter for *The Make a Wish Foundation* and on the Anaheim Chamber Board to set an example of the importance of giving back to your community. Her two daughters are also very successful businesswomen.

Cathy Daugherty and other small business owners and champions will be honored at the 46th Annual Small Business Week Awards event on June 4th hosted by the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians in the Yuhaviatam Room at 777 San Manuel Blvd., Highland, CA.

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