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## **American Consumer Credit Counseling Joins Coalition To Sponsor 11<sup>th</sup> Annual National Consumer Protection Week**

February 20, 2009 (Newton, MA) - American Consumer Credit Counseling (ACCC) has joined a group of federal, state, and local government agencies and national consumer organizations launching the 11<sup>th</sup> annual National Consumer Protection Week (NCPW), March 1-7. NCPW 2009 – Nuts and Bolts: Tools for Today’s Economy – highlights consumer education efforts across the nation. Information can help people get the most for their money, whether they are trying to stretch their paychecks, find a quick fix for a spotty credit history, or tell the difference between a real deal and a potentially fraudulent product or service.

“ACCC is proud to be part of this year’s National Consumer Protection Week campaign,” said ACCC President Steve Trumble. “In times like these, information is one commodity that retains its value. We invite everyone to visit [www.consumer.gov/ncpw](http://www.consumer.gov/ncpw) for the tools they can use to make smart choices in the marketplace.”

According to the Federal Trade Commission, scam artists and fraudsters follow the headlines, and are likely to be using the economic downturn to take advantage of consumers who may be underwater financially. The NCPW website has tools people can use to recognize a rip-off, sniff out a scam, and make smart choices for today’s market.

Partner organizations, like ACCC, have tips on a wide range of topics, from how to get a free credit report to how to spot a telemarketing scam, from how to deal with debt to how to deter and detect identity theft, from how to avoid home and auto repair scams to how to file a consumer complaint with the appropriate authorities.

For more information about NCPW, visit [www.consumer.gov/ncpw](http://www.consumer.gov/ncpw). For additional financial resources or to learn about credit counseling and debt management, visit [www.consumercredit.com](http://www.consumercredit.com).

*ABOUT ACCC: American Consumer Credit Counseling (ACCC) is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization dedicated to empowering consumers to regain control of their lives through education, counseling and debt management. ACCC provides individuals with practical solutions for solving financial problems and recognizes that consumers’ financial difficulties are often not the result of poor spending habits, but more frequently from extenuating circumstances beyond their control. As one of the nation’s leading providers of financial education and credit counseling services, ACCC works with consumers to help them with the best plan of action to reduce their debt and regain financial stability. For more information or to access free financial education resources log on to [www.consumercredit.com](http://www.consumercredit.com).*

*Member of The Association of Independent Consumer Credit Counseling Agencies  
ACCC is in good standing with the Better Business Bureau  
Licensed and Bonded in all states as required*