



NFCC PRESS RELEASE

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CREDIT COUNSELORS GATHER IN WASHINGTON

*National Foundation for Credit Counseling Holding Annual Leaders Conference
To Discuss Issues Impacting the American Consumer*

Silver Spring, MD – As our country struggles to recover from the recession, the National Foundation for Credit Counseling (NFCC) is gathering in Washington, September 14 through 16 to hear from industry leaders and address the many pressing issues confronting Americans.

This year's conference will bring together nearly 300 agency executives, credit counselors, national leaders and stakeholders from around the country. Featured speakers and panels in Washington include:

- **Susan C. Keating**, NFCC president & CEO, delivering the State of the Credit Counseling Sector address;
- **Mark Zandi**, chief economist and co-founder of Moody's Economy.com, will offer a unique perspective on the current and future economic climate;
- **Debbie Bianucci**, president and chief executive officer of BAI, will chair a panel to study consumer responses to a variety of issues and topics - from the longer-term benefit of bankruptcy counseling to how consumers are feeling about the current financial environment and their own financial literacy;
- **Jeff Courtney, Senior Operating Director, Customer Support Division, Chase Card** will provide his perspective on what financial services companies need to do in response to the current economic realities, the role credit cards will play in the future financial system, and other insightful discussion on these challenging times for creditors and consumers alike;
- **Janey A. Place, PhD**, founder of DigitalThinking, will lead a thought-provoking, candid session about the topic of consumer trust and financial institution practices;

In addition, there will be numerous panels, workshops and other presentations addressing important issues and providing agency representatives with the tools to better serve consumers.

Members of the media interested in attending the conference should contact Gail Cunningham at (940) 691-6322 (direct), or (240) 672-2700 (cell), or via email at gcunningham@nfcc.org to obtain credentials and a conference program. *Note: Some sessions are for NFCC members only.*

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The National Foundation for Credit Counseling (NFCC), founded in 1951, is the nation's largest and longest-serving national nonprofit credit counseling organization. The NFCC's mission is to promote the national agenda for financially responsible behavior and build capacity for its members to deliver the highest quality financial education and counseling services. NFCC members annually help more than three million consumers through nearly 850 community-based offices nationwide. For free and affordable confidential advice through a reputable NFCC Member, call 1-800-388-2227, (en Español 1-800-682-9832) or visit www.nfcc.org.