Encore Capital Group Announces Second Year of Community College Scholarship Program

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SAN DIEGO, May 19, 2016 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Encore Capital Group, Inc. (NASDAQ:ECPG), an international specialty finance company, announced it has awarded \$117,000 in scholarships to students at 40 community colleges across the country, as part of its national program, the Encore Capital Group Scholarship Fund.

The program, in its second year, will provide students with \$1,000 grants for tuition at select community colleges in 2016, in an effort to support students on their path to an advanced education degree.

"We are pleased to once again help students on their path to higher education," said Sheryl Wright, Sr. Vice President, Corporate and Government Affairs, Encore Capital Group. "For many, college is the first step to financial independence; however, college often comes with high expenses. This award is a means to helping them advance in education and financial empowerment."

Wright noted that the scholarship will cover nearly 1/3 of tuition costs for the students.¹

The scholarships awarded under the Encore Capital Group Scholarship Fund are part of Encore's Corporate Social Responsibility program, which focuses on economic empowerment to help individuals take control of their financial futures through quality education, job training and basic support services. This is the company's second announcement this year in support of education. Encore recently renewed its partnership with the Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy, whose mission is to educate and prepare youth for life-long financial success through financial literacy education.

About Encore Capital Group, Inc.

Encore Capital Group is an international specialty finance company that provides debt recovery solutions for consumers across a broad range of assets. Through its subsidiaries around the globe, Encore purchases portfolios of consumer receivables from major banks, credit unions and utility providers.

Encore partners with individuals as they repay their debt obligations, helping them on the road to financial recovery and ultimately improving their economic well-being. Encore is the first and only company of its kind to operate with a Consumer Bill of Rights that provides industry-leading commitments to consumers. Headquartered in San Diego, Encore is a publicly traded NASDAQ Global Select company (ticker symbol: ECPG) and a component stock of the Russell 2000, the S&P Small Cap 600 and the Wilshire 4500. More information about the company can be found at http://www.encorecapital.com. More information about the Company's Cabot Credit Management subsidiary can be found at http://www.encorecapital.com. Information found on the company's or Cabot's website is not incorporated by reference.

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