Encore Capital Group Achieves Prestigious International Standards Organization Certification

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Strengthens In-House Consumer Protection with ISO 27001:2013 Award

SAN DIEGO, Feb. 15, 2017 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Encore Capital Group, Inc. (NASDAQ:ECPG), an international specialty finance company, today announced it has become **ISO 27001:2013** certified as part of its continued efforts to protect consumer information. To demonstrate this commitment, Encore underwent formal certification of its Information Security Management System ("ISMS") by an independent third party registrar and met all requirements from the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

"Encore leads the collections industry in many ways," said Blake Hern, Chief Information Security Officer. "As part of our continued drive to succeed we've achieved this certification to provide a competitive advantage over debt buyers in our industry so that we can maintain our status as our issuers' preferred partner."

The ISO 27001:2013 standard specifies the requirements for establishing, implementing, maintaining and continually improving an information security management system within the context of the organization. It also includes requirements for the assessment and treatment of information security risks tailored to the needs of the organization.

Encore is one of the few debt collection companies to have earned this accreditation to date. In its endeavor to meet ISO 27001 standards, Encore has shown its commitment by adopting a systematic and on-going approach to managing sensitive company and customer information. This certificate cements Encore's position as a leader in the debt collection industry by adhering to the highest internationally accepted standard for ISMS.

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 <u>Consumer Bill of Rights</u> 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 <u>http://www.encorecapital.com</u>. More information about the Company's Cabot Credit Management subsidiary can be found at <u>http://www.cabotcm.com</u>. Information found on the company's or Cabot's website is not incorporated by reference.

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Encore Capital Group, Inc