



Press release

Ostrava, 14th January 2009

Debt Advisory Center (“Poradna“) opens its branch in Ostrava

On Wednesday 14.1.2009, the public benefit company Debt Advisory Center (“Poradna“) opens an office in the Moravian-Silesian region. Hence, overindebted consumers from Moravia can use consultancy service closer to their homes. So far the clients of Debt Advisory Center had to travel for personal consultation to the Prague office, which had been open a year ago and during its short existence provided consultancy to over 4.100 clients.

The task of newly established Debt Advisory Center office will be helping debtors find a solution when due to their insolvency they are subject to social exclusion. At the same time, Debt Advisory Center will pursue information and education activities among potential debtors and thus contribute to the principles of responsible lending.

“Employees of Debt Advisory Center will help clients threatened by or already exposed to payment insolvency with telephone or written communication with their creditors, courts or judicial executors. Debt Advisory Center offers free and discrete consultations about discharge from debts (personal bankruptcy) according to the insolvency law. A special service rendered by the center includes a direct help with completion of proposals for a discharge from debts designed for courts,” says David Šmejkal, director of the center.

Among partners of the center are the biggest banks, a construction savings bank, consumer associations, foundations and a university. This fact guarantees professional service, offered by the center free of charge. Trained consultants are available to consumers in Prague and now also in Ostrava – either in person or on several help lines.

The address of a new office is Vítkovická 1 (the ÚAN building), 702 00, Moravská Ostrava. Clients can call either a free Monday help line or a special help line 595 532 740 on other days.

Debt Advisory Center provides free advice to citizens threatened by or already in a state of insolvency. Advisors are available for consultancy about insolvency process (discharging from debts, personal bankruptcy) according to the insolvency law, completion and submitting of proposals for a discharge from debts, process of execution and legal proceedings, offering alternatives in solving difficult situations connected with debts or overindebtedness. They provide their services also on a free help line 800 722 722 (on Monday during working hours). The main goal, however, is prevention of the most serious cases of overindebtedness and helping at an early stage, when action and change of behavior can prevent the biggest impacts on life of overindebted families. All services of the center are free of charge, discrete, independent and fair. In 2008, Debt Advisory Center served over 4.100 clients.

For more information please contact David Šmejkal, Debt Advisory Center director: smejkal@financnitisen.cz, tel.: +420 737 553426.



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PŘI FINANČNÍ TÍSNĚ**

Partners of Debt Advisory Center:



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