

**For additional details, contact:**

Amy Lewis  
Strategy Communications  
Phone: (619) 713-0622 [office] • (858) 752-1085 [mobile]  
E-mail: amy@scpublicrelations.com



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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**GARY SYMINGTON RANKED AMONG TOP 40 UNDER 40**  
*Debt-Free America President Honored For Outstanding Professionalism*

**SAN DIEGO, October 14, 2008** – Gary Symington, President of Debt-Free America, was honored as one of the city’s top 40 professionals under 40 in the September 2008 issue of *San Diego Metropolitan*. The award is the only of its kind that recognizes young business leaders of the region.

“I am honored to receive an award that acknowledges the success of Debt-Free America,” said Symington. “Credit must also be given to the hard-working staff, who have attributed to the organization’s successes.”

Civic leadership has earned Symington praise as he and Debt-Free America play active roles within the community. Participation in non-profits includes Kash Kids, Avon Breast Cancer Walk, and the aiding of Louisiana Small Business Relief Fund.

Debt-Free America provides free credit counseling to their clients and helps them climb their way out of debt. The company is nationally ranked among the top 15 percent of more than 700 alike. By the end of the next year, Symington plans to open three Financial Literacy Education Centers in San Diego, Kansas City, and Dallas. The centers will act as free financial resources for consumers that will provide them access to budgeting software and workshops.

Symington, 35, began his career with Debt-Free America at the age of 15, and took the reigns of the non-profit when his father retired in 1999.

All recipients were honored during a luncheon at the San Diego Convention Center on Sept. 25, 2008.

*Debt-Free America is a 501(c)3 non-profit, community service organization offering confidential and professional credit counseling, debt management programs, and financial education to consumers nationwide. Debt-Free America is dedicated to providing FREE services to help financially distressed families and individuals effectively manage their personal finances. The Board members and operations staff have a long-term commitment to helping anyone in debt crisis, and even those not in a debt crisis. Debt-Free America has been in the business since 1997 and is now serving over 16,000 clients nationwide. Visit them on the web at [www.debtfreeamerica.com](http://www.debtfreeamerica.com).*

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