



P R E S S R E L E A S E

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 25, 2020
Contact: Jorge De La Cruz
(916) 822-8554
048-20

Millions of Reasons to be Thankful

For many of these winners, it was a “family affair”

SACRAMENTO – Playing California Lottery draw games is not the only way to become a millionaire, you can also strike it rich by playing the California Lottery’s *Scratchers*® games! That’s exactly what happened to these seven lucky players from across the state of California. It wasn’t only **one** *Scratchers* game that set these players up, they all became millionaires playing different ones! That goes to show that luck can be found in all of our games!

Starting in Southern California, **Nshan Asryan** scored the top prize of \$5 million on the aptly named *\$5 Million Extravaganza Scratchers* ticket he purchased at Top Produce Market, which is located at 7444 ½ Van Nuys Boulevard in **Van Nuys (Los Angeles County)**. Asryan and his son explained what happened when they realized they might be huge winners. “I bought the ticket, scratched it and went home,” says Asryan. His son continues, “He wasn’t sure what he won, so he checked with us, and then we all started jumping around!” Asryan plans to donate to charities and invest his winnings.

Lessbia Zapata grabbed the top prize of \$1 million playing a *Million Dollar Multiplier Scratchers*. That lucky ticket was purchased at JS Liquor & Market located at 1005 West Century Boulevard in **Los Angeles**.

There was a second win in Los Angeles. **Jose Barajas** brings home the top prize of \$1 million after playing a *PAC-MAN*® *Scratchers*. That big winning ticket came from Boone’s Market located at 4101 West Chevy Chase Drive.

Next, we have **Anna Furi** who became a millionaire in Riverside County. Furi usually scratches her Lottery tickets with her adult son. She scratches one line, he scratches another, and so on. That’s exactly what they did when she purchased a *California Dreamin’ Scratchers* ticket at G & M Oil located at 79-513 Highway 111 in **La Quinta (Riverside County)**. It didn’t take long for Furi to realize she had won a \$1 million prize! Furi plans to buy a house and invest so she has something to leave her kids, including her scratching partner.

In the Central Valley, **Adrian Hernandez** claimed as a group representative for a lottery pool. Their *Ultimate Millions Scratchers* ticket worth \$2 million was purchased at Fastrip #33 located at 6401 South H Street in **Bakersfield (Kern County)**.

Meanwhile, in Northern California, **Susan Rios** is a doting grandmother who loves to visit with her grandchildren. While heading to one of these visits, she stopped at Fast & Easy Mart located at 8660

Lower Sacramento Road in **Stockton (San Joaquin County)**. It was there she purchased a *Win Big Scratchers* ticket and won \$1 million! Even after she scratched the ticket, Rios had to check with her eldest granddaughter to make sure she wasn't seeing things, and then she asked her, "Do you know how much a million dollars is? It's a lot!" Luckily, her grandkids won't have to just imagine for long because Rios plans to share her prize with them for Christmas!

Finally we have **Hildefonso Cueto** who claimed a *Ca\$h Bonus Scratchers* worth \$1 million! He purchased that incredibly lucky winning ticket at Better Trade Market located at 7838 International Boulevard in **Oakland (Alameda County)**.

The California Lottery and its employees continue to serve an essential government function, providing supplemental funding to the state's public schools, colleges and universities. The Lottery also provides essential revenue to more than 22,000 local businesses that sell tickets. Based on sales levels during late March/early April of this year, retailers across the state received over \$7 million per week in commissions and bonuses from the Lottery. This money directly helps local businesses – most of which are independently-owned by entrepreneurs trying to stay afloat during these difficult times.

###

The California Lottery's mission is to provide supplemental funding to California public schools, including kindergarten and grades 1-12, community colleges, the California State University, the University of California, and other California public educational entities. The funds the Lottery transfers to public education total approximately \$1.8 billion for fiscal year 2018-19, which amounts to a modest percentage of education's overall budget. However, this funding is largely non-discretionary, meaning schools can use this for important, yet unfunded instructional programs they would otherwise not afford. During the same period the Lottery generated almost \$7 billion in sales, more than 95% of which goes back to the community in the form of prize payments, retailer commissions and bonuses, and contributions to education. The California Lottery urges its customers to play responsibly. Problem gambling resources are available to anyone at 1-800-GAMBLER.

www.calottery.com