



## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 5, 2020

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### ***Want to Win Big? Try Kern County!***

**SACRAMENTO** – While we’ve all been going about our day-to-day business, not one but two California Lottery retail locations in Bakersfield have become the site of million-dollar lottery wins!

- Samco Food Store located at 3300 White Lane in Bakersfield is one of them. Someone bought a *Ca\$h Bonus Scratchers*® there worth \$1 million, and the Lottery has now verified that winner! He says it changes everything. “I drive a 1995 vehicle, so I’m probably gonna buy a new [one]. It makes life so much easier,” Gregory Harness said, listing reasons why this is such a big deal. It is for the retailer, too. They get a separate \$5,000 bonus from the Lottery for simply selling the \$10 ticket with such a massive winning prize.
- Another Bakersfield retailer sold a winning *Scratchers* worth \$2 million! Lucky player, John Gonzalez, visited Johnny’s Food Mart at 2612 Buck Owens Boulevard and purchased the ticket. He scratched it, and now he’s a millionaire! In this case, the retailer scores a bonus of \$10,000! This was an *Instant Prize Crossword Scratchers*. That game sells for \$20.

Lottery sales continue to provide critical revenue to local retailers that sell tickets, in the form of bonuses and commissions. In addition, the sale of California Lottery products can serve as an important draw to their stores. People often run in to get tickets and purchase other items as well.

Along with putting more money into local economies, the California Lottery and its employees proudly continue to serve an essential government function, providing supplemental funding to the state’s public schools, colleges and universities.

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*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.*

