

## PRESS RELEASE

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## New California State Lottery Commissioner Sworn In

**SACRAMENTO** – California State Lottery Director Alva V. Johnson today administered the oath of office and formally swore in new Lottery Commissioner, Tiffani Alvidrez.



California State Lottery Director Alva V. Johnson administers the oath of office to newly appointed Lottery Commissioner Tiffani Alvidrez on Monday, April 18 at Lottery Headquarters in Sacramento

"I'm honored to be a commissioner for the California State Lottery," said Alvidrez. "I'm looking forward to working with my fellow commissioners, Director Johnson and his leadership team on helping the Lottery meet its strategic business goals in line with the incredible mission to support public schools in California; it's a privilege to serve our state in this capacity."

Commissioner Alvidrez was appointed to the California Lottery Commission by Governor Gavin Newsom in March. Alvidrez is a Regional Manager of Policy and Governmental Affairs for Instacart and served as Chief of Staff at the Office of Senator Holly J. Mitchell from 2010 to 2021. She's also a board member for Leadership California and a member of the National Black MBA Association and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

"We are thrilled to have Commissioner Alvidrez on board," said Director Johnson. "Given her experience in both government and community, she clearly brings relevant knowledge and insight that will undoubtedly prove quite valuable to the Lottery, our players, and ultimately our beneficiaries at schools and other public education institutions in California. We thank Governor Newsom for this appointment."

The five-member <u>Lottery Commission</u> is mandated by the California State Lottery Act of 1984 to oversee the Lottery, ensuring integrity, security, fairness, and transparency in the operation. The Commission consists of five members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. No more than three members can be from the same political party, one member must be a certified public accountant, and one member must have at least five years of experience as a law enforcement officer.

Alameda County Sheriff Gregory Ahern, who chairs the Commission, has served on the Commission for just over 10 years, having been first appointed in March of 2012. Commissioner Keetha Mills, who is a certified public accountant, and Commissioner Nathaniel Kirtman were both recently reappointed to the Commission in February. Commissioner Peter Stern was appointed in June of 2019.

The Lottery's next Commission meeting will be held at Lottery Headquarters in Sacramento on May 26, 2022. All Commission meetings are open to the public.

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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 transferred to public education totaled more than \$1.8 billion for fiscal year 2020-21, which amounted to a modest percentage of education's overall budget. However, this funding is largely nondiscretionary, meaning schools can use this for important, yet unfunded instructional programs they would otherwise not afford. During the same period, the Lottery generated almost \$8.4 billion in sales, more than 95% of which went 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

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