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PRESS RELEASE

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Five California Lottery Players Become Millionaires by Playing Scratchers®

SACRAMENTO – As summer rolls into high gear, five California Lottery players become millionaires by playing California Lottery Scratchers® tickets!

Maria Esparza Lupercio and **Enriqueta Pacheco Maya** each won \$5,000,000 by playing Scratchers.

Esparza Lupercio won on a West Coast Winnings ticket she bought at BMF Racing Company in Hollister (San Benito County). Esparza Lupercio commented, "When I scratched it, I saw A LOT of zeroes, I could barely believe my eyes!" She plans to buy a house and invest her newfound wealth in her future.

Pacheco Maya won on a 100X ticket she bought at Lucky 1 Food Store in Riverside. Pacheco Maya explained that she only plays when her husband buys her tickets, but never expected to win a prize like this. They plan to pay off debt, buy a house and a car with their prize.

The BMF Racing Company and Lucky 1 Food Store will both get a \$25,000 bonus for selling the winning tickets.

The Instant Prize Crossword Scratchers game won \$2,000,000 for two different players, **Francisco Cruz-Madrigal** and **Enrique Acosta Torrero.** Cruz-Madrigal bought his ticket at a Chevron station located at 4295 Clayton Road in Concord (Contra Costa County) and Acosta Torrero bought his ticket at the 7-Eleven located at 14101 Francisquito Avenue in Baldwin Park (Los Angeles County).

Wrapping up this round of new millionaires is **Francene IIano** who won \$1,000,000 playing 100X bought at Inzsss Trading in Buena Park (Orange County). She was so incredulous to her win, that she scratched the ticket, checked it on app and then returned to the store where she bought the ticket to verify, just to triple check!

Every dollar spent in Lottery games supports California's public schools. The public can use <u>the map</u> <u>tool on our website</u> to see how much money their local school has received from Lottery funds.

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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