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

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Another Central Valley Instant Millionaire Lottery Win!

SACRAMENTO – When Alex Rivera’s mother handed him an unscratched [Bonus Blast](#) Scratchers® ticket, he said it was not too surprising. That’s because occasionally during her work breaks, she leaves her Fresno office building and heads over to a nearby *A Mart* market to buy groceries and lottery tickets for both of them. Little did the mom and son team realize that a \$10 ticket would completely change their lives.

“Later on that day, I scratched it and it hit! It was unreal,” Rivera said, realizing he’d just won \$1 million! “Just complete shock. I didn’t believe it for a full week.”

Rivera said he got ahold of his mom right away, and much to his surprise, she told him one of the Scratchers tickets she kept for herself *was also a winner!*

Although it was “only” a \$1,000 prize, they had a wonderful time celebrating each other’s big news.

So, what does Rivera plan on doing with his newfound wealth? “Just be logical, be smart. Pay off my debts and buy a home. That’s my primary goal. I focus on the things that I need, rather than the things that I want.”

The market that sold the winning ticket gets a \$5,000 bonus just for selling the ticket that made yet another California Lottery player an instant millionaire!



Snip from Rivera's winning ticket showing
the winning \$1,000,000 square



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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 \$1.88 billion for fiscal year 2020-21, which amounted to a modest percentage of education's overall budget. However, this funding is largely 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 \$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. As jackpots rise, the California Lottery would like to remind players that gambling should be fun. Borrowing money to play, spending above a person's budget or using money intended for other purposes can ultimately lead to significant problems for players and their families. If a player recognizes that they have a gambling problem or if someone knows of someone who may have a problem, the Lottery recommends calling the California Problem Gambling Help Line at 1-800-GAMBLER.

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