



## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

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\*\*\*Photo included

### ***California Lottery Announces Second Winner to Bank Largest Scratchers® Prize in CA Lottery History***

*Winner Expresses Happiness That CA Public Education Wins Also*

**SACRAMENTO** – For a lot of people who go on vacation to Hawaii, the flight home from the palm trees and warm waters of the Pacific can be a bit of a bummer. Not so for Mary Orozco, who just returned to California from the islands.

In fact, there was probably nobody on her plane more eager to get home. That's because she had a multimillion-dollar check waiting for her to pick up, thanks to a big Lottery win!

Orozco uncovered the word "LIFE" on a [Set for Life Millionaire Edition](#) Scratchers ticket she bought in San Jose, instantly winning \$20 million – the most lucrative Scratchers prize in California Lottery history.

"I usually play the five-dollar games, but I decided I was just going to splurge and go for the big one. And I was like, 'Wow!' that was a good splurge, let me tell you!" Orozco said with a big chuckle. She continued laughing, explaining that when she scratched her winning ticket in her car, she really couldn't believe it.

"I almost fell over! I checked it on my phone (using the Lottery's app) to make sure it was a winner," she said. "I was shaking. I'm just beside myself!"

Interestingly, the business where she bought her winning ticket, Ron's Liquors, had become her lucky place over the many years she's played the Lottery. Orozco says she previously won \$1,000 on a Scratchers ticket she bought there, too.

"I definitely feel like it's my lucky spot, and I'm excited they're getting their cut too," she added. Ron's Liquors gets a \$100,000 bonus for



selling the winning ticket.

The *Set For Life Millionaire Edition* ticket gives top-prize winners two payment options. They can choose to receive an annuity paying \$800,000 annually for 25 years, or they can take a lump sum payment of \$11.6 million (both amounts are before federal taxes). Orozco elected to take the lump sum.

“It will for sure help shorten the time frame we’ve set toward buying a home, and then I want to help family and friends,” Orozco said. “I don’t plan on buying a Maserati or yacht or anything like that.”

Orozco says she always kept it in the back of her mind when playing that she’s helping to support California public schools, which is an added bonus. “I love supporting public education! If I lose, I still know someone’s winning. And that’s great!”

Orozco is the second California Lottery player to win the top prize on the new *Set for Life Millionaire Edition* Scratchers game. Another player, who got his ticket in Placer County, was the first winner [unveiled just last month](#).

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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 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.*

[www.calottery.com](http://www.calottery.com)



Owner of Ron’s Liquors, Sukhwinder Sandhu, is pictured on the right. His son, Harpreet Sandhu, who sold Mary her winning ticket, is pictured on the left.



Image of Orozco’s actual claim receipt