



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

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Three Lucky Players Discover Other Ways to Win!

Three Scratchers® Winners Score a Combined \$4 Million in Prizes

SACRAMENTO – While the world spotlight has been on California following several high-profile, billion-dollar draw game wins, the latest California Lottery winners discovered there are multiple ways to hit it big. These lucky players chose another route to gaming, and their gamble paid off.

The following winners, being unveiled today, chose to try their chances with Scratchers instead of a game with bouncing balls.

- Miguel Palominos Contreras won \$2 million playing *Instant Prize Crossword*. His ticket was purchased at Moa's Service Center (Chevron station) in Hayward (Alameda County).
- Varoujan Minasian scored \$1 million playing *Xtreme Multiplier*. That lucky Scratchers game came from Fry's Hollywood Shell in Los Angeles.
- Martin Canas also landed a cool \$1 million playing *Xtreme Multiplier*. This one was sold at Town House Liquor Store in Bell Gardens (Los Angeles County).

The store that sold the \$2 million ticket gets a \$10,000 bonus, and both stores that sold the winning \$1 million tickets get a \$5,000 bonus.

The sale of these games and others supports the mission of the California Lottery, which is to raise supplemental funding for the state's public schools, colleges, and universities. The Lottery also provides essential revenue to more than [23,000 local businesses that sell tickets](#). This money directly helps local businesses, most of which are independently owned.

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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 \$2.07 billion for fiscal year 2021-22, 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 more than \$8.5 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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