## PRESS RELEASE

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# Lucky Mega Millions® Ticket Sold in California Wins \$2.9 Million - Not Bad for Second Place! 

The Other Big Jackpot Game - Powerball $\mathbb{R}$ -<br>Now With Jackpot Estimated at $\$ 500$ Million for TONIGHT

SACRAMENTO - One Mega Millions ticket sold in California missed the jackpot by just one number, still winning big with a more than $\$ 2.9$ million prize for matching five numbers in Tuesday night's draw.

Someone bought that ticket at a Los Angeles 76 station at the corner of National and Sawtelle boulevards. The winning numbers are $8,23,44,45,53$, and Mega number 3 ; second-place winners for Mega Millions have 180 days to come forward and claim the prize.

This week's big win comes on the heels of Friday night's even bigger win when two Mega Millions tickets sold in California hit the jackpot, both having been sold at the same small market. They split the $\$ 395$ million prize. Jackpot winners have one year to claim the prize. Read here for more on what happens after a big win happens in California.

Meanwhile, the Powerball jackpot has grown to an estimated $\$ 500$ million for tonight's drawing, and plenty of California Lottery players are getting in on the action. Thanks to sales, the California Lottery has been able to raise $\$ 34.3$ million for public schools in California. Approximately 80 cents of every $\$ 2$ Powerball ticket sold here is set aside to support public education, which is the sole mission of the California Lottery.

Believe it or not, tonight's top projected prize of $\$ 500$ million doesn't even come close to the money won the last time the Powerball jackpot was hit. Back in October, one ticket sold in California hit it big, earning the eventual winner or winners an astounding $\$ 1.765$ billion - the second-largest jackpot in U.S. lottery history. That ticket was sold at Midway Market in Frazier Park (Kern County). A winner has not yet been announced, and the current prize pot has been growing ever since.

Powerball drawings take place every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday at 7:59 p.m. PT. Tickets must be purchased by 7:00 p.m. to be eligible for that evening's draw.

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 $\$ 8.85$ 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. If you feel you have a gambling problem or know someone who does, you can get free confidential help by calling the California Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-GAMBLER.

