

700 North Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95811  
calottery.com



## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 21, 2023  
Email: [PIO@calottery.com](mailto:PIO@calottery.com)  
Twitter: [@calotterypress](https://twitter.com/calotterypress)

### ***Bait Store in Stanislaus County Reels in Big Scratchers® Win!***

**SACRAMENTO** – A pair of lucky California Lottery players have won a combined \$10 million.

Jose Sanchez netted a top prize of \$5,000,000 playing a 2023 Scratchers ticket he bought at Bait Barn on Yosemite Boulevard in Waterford (Stanislaus County). While Sanchez wanted to remain private about his plans for the money, Avtar Sra, the owner of Bait Barn, says a major win like this has helped lure in more business.

“Customers are excited. This is the first time a big win like this has happened in my life,” Sra said. Sra, who has owned Bait Barn and other stores over the last 17 years, says he was hooked on selling California Lottery tickets after seeing the foot traffic they can bring in. “People buy tickets when they fish Don Pedro Lake and Turlock Lake,” he added.

The retailer bonus that Bait Barn receives weighs in at a hefty \$25,000 just for selling that winning ticket. Sra told the California Lottery he plans on giving some of the money to his employees and putting the rest into the business. Sra says he is proud to be in Waterford.

“Thanks to the local community, they helped us survive here as a business,” Sra added.



(Photos of Bait Barn, located at 12505 Yosemite Boulevard in Waterford.  
Photos submitted by Avtar Sra.)

One other California Lottery player caught some luck as well. Eduardo Pingquian was angling for a big win when he picked up a \$5,000,000 Extreme Cash Scratchers ticket in Central California. Pingquian got the whopper of a prize, winning \$5,000,000. He got his winning ticket at Fastrip on Cecil Avenue in Delano (Kern County).

###

*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. 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.*

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