

PRESS RELEASE

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Powerball® Jackpot Grows to an Estimated \$146 Million as California Lottery Players Enjoy Mid-May Paydays

SACRAMENTO – Four lucky California Lottery players are experiencing significant windfalls this spring, as they collectively pocket almost \$6 million in prizes. The excitement doesn't have to end there, however, as all *Powerball* players have an incredible opportunity to win an estimated \$146 million jackpot tonight.

Two players with tickets from San Diego County won big bucks after matching five of six numbers in recent drawings.

Raul Ozuna just won \$1,801,715 after cashing in his winning ticket from the *Powerball* draw on February 18. He picked up his ticket at Eastlake Shell in Chula Vista. North of there, in Encinitas, **Enrique Viquez Garcia** also struck it rich playing *Powerball*. His ticket for the November 5, 2022, draw netted him \$1,120,390 and was bought at Rite Aid on Manchester Avenue.

Across the rest of the Golden State, **Mae Chielo Siendo** won \$2,000,000 playing an *Instant Crossword* Scratchers® game. That lucky ticket was purchased at Corner Shop Stop in San Jose.

Karen Gallardo won \$1,000,000 on a *Winter Riches* Scratchers game. That ticket was bought at Handi Stop Liquor in Kerman (Fresno County).

Whether a ticket wins or loses, anyone who plays any of the California Lottery games is helping to support public education in our state. Tonight's *Powerball* draw is slated to happen at 7:59pm PT. To learn more about *Powerball*, including the various prize tiers and odds of winning, visit <u>California Lottery's website</u>.

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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 approximately \$2 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 \$8.8 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.

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