

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 12, 2023 PIO@calottery.com @calotterypress

\$1.765 Billion Powerball® Jackpot Update: Kern County Business Located in Small Town Celebrates Huge Win

SACRAMENTO – For the third time in less than a year, a California small business has sold a winning *Powerball* jackpot worth more than a billion dollars. Midway Market, located in the tiny Kern Co. community of Frazier Park, sold the staggering \$1.765 billion-winning ticket from last night's draw.

It was the 36th *Powerball* draw of a sequence that started in July after another Southern California store, Las Palmitas Mini Market in downtown L.A., sold a winning \$1.08 billion jackpot ticket. This latest sequence, in a remarkable and historic string of back-to-back billion-dollar jackpots, helped California Lottery raise an additional \$119.5 million for public schools here in the Golden State.

"We're just really excited that we can continue to serve our purpose of generating supplemental funding for public education," said California Lottery Director Alva V. Johnson during a press conference this afternoon in Frazier Park. "We couldn't do this without the important partnerships we have with the 23,000 brick and mortar retailers that sell Lottery tickets to people who want to buy our fantastic products. We're grateful for them helping us with this important mission."

California Lottery retail partners earned more than \$18 million in commissions and bonuses during this latest *Powerball* jackpot run. Midway Market, a family-owned business since 1994, earned a \$1 million check for selling last night's winning ticket.

"I want to thank the Frazier Park community and the California Lottery for supporting and providing for us," said Nidal (Andy) Khalil, owner of Midway Market. As for what he plans on doing with his share of the \$1 million bonus, "I want to make sure my kids have enough funds for college."

The winner of the second largest jackpot remains a mystery. But they have plenty of time, one year from the date of the draw, to come forward and claim their fortune. Once that happens, they are thoroughly vetted by California Lottery security and law enforcement investigators.

The Lottery will not declare a winner, or announce that anyone has filed a claim, until that process is complete. California Lottery winners can file a claim at any of the <u>nine Lottery offices</u> located throughout the state.

FACTS AND FIGURES

- For every Powerball ticket sold in California, 80 cents goes toward public schools.
- Raising money for public schools is the sole mission of the California Lottery, and higher jackpots maximize the opportunity for additional revenue as more people play.
- Should the jackpot winner opt to take the lump sum, the cash value of the winning ticket is \$774.1 million before federal taxes. If the winner selects the annuity option, they will receive one immediate payment followed by 29 annual payments that increase by 5% each year.
- The winning numbers from last night's draw are 22, 24, 40, 52, 64 and Powerball 10;
- This was the second largest Powerball jackpot and second largest U.S. lottery jackpot ever won. California Lottery players have now won, or co-won, the top four-largest jackpots in <u>Powerball history</u> dating back to <u>2016</u>. All of them worth more than \$1 billion.



(Left) Nidal Khalil, owner of Midway Market (Right) Alva V. Johnson, California Lottery Director.



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 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. 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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