



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Summer Sizzles With Over \$19 Million in New CA Lottery Winners!**

**SACRAMENTO** – Six lucky California Lottery players are collectively taking home over \$19 million in winnings, turning up the excitement this season as temperatures rise.



Among the winners is **Richard Steele**, who is about to celebrate his 84th birthday next month. The retiree, who is a self-proclaimed Scratchers® enthusiast, was eager to share his story about taking home a cool \$1,000 from a *Multiplier Craze* Scratchers ticket purchased at a CVS near his apartment in downtown San Diego.

“There was a lot of glee. I yelled I had won \$1,000. I had fun. I am still a fun guy,” shared an elated Steele, who plans to use his winnings to play more Scratchers.

The largest win of the group goes to **Jose Garfias**, who won a whopping \$7,000,000 from an *Xtreme*

*Crossword* Scratchers ticket sold at Sweet Time Donuts in Compton.

**Douglass Colten** won \$5,000,000 from a *Year of*



*Fortune Scratchers* ticket, bought at the Circle K on Brookside Avenue in Redlands. Another \$5,000,000 winner is **Kuwa Harin**, taking home that top prize playing a *California State Riches* Scratchers ticket, which was purchased at a Chevron station on El Cajon Boulevard in San Diego.

**Donald Kis** won \$1,000,000 on a *Red Hot Cash* Scratchers ticket. That ticket was purchased at Eagle Gas in Ceres. Rounding out the list of new millionaires is **Ali Awad** who won \$1,000,000 playing a *Merry Multiplier* Scratchers game. That ticket was purchased at 7-Eleven on San Diego Mission Road in San Diego.

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The mission of the California Lottery is to raise additional funding for public education, helping to supplement school budgets for K-12 as well as colleges and universities. **The California Lottery has raised more than \$43.8 billion for public schools** through the responsible sale of its games since 1985. Lottery funding for schools is largely discretionary, so administrators and educators can use Lottery money for instructional programs and services they may not otherwise afford. The California Lottery features eight draw games and dozens of new instant Scratchers games each year. More than 95% of California Lottery sales revenue goes back to the community in the form of prize payments, retailer commissions and bonuses, and contributions to education. More information about who benefits can be found here. California Lottery is also committed to promoting responsible gaming. Anyone who shows signs of a gambling problem, or knows someone who does, can get free, confidential help by calling the CA Problem Gambling Hotline at 1-800-GAMBLER.



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