



PRESS RELEASE

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 15, 2024

PIO@calottery.com

[@calotterypress](https://twitter.com/calotterypress)

California Lottery Reveals Who Won Massive \$1.765 Billion Powerball® Jackpot

Also Breaking: Mega Millions® Jackpot Increases to \$815 Million Tonight

SACRAMENTO – While players line up across the state to try their chances at two jackpots approaching the billion-dollar mark, today the California Lottery is revealing for the first time who won the massive, second highest-ever jackpot with a very lucky *Powerball* ticket sold in a small town in Kern County.

Theodorus Struyck represents the group of winners who bought that ticket at Midway Market in Frazier Park ahead of the historic draw back in October of last year.

Their jackpot win came during the 36th draw for that *Powerball* sequence – a run that allowed California Lottery to raise an **additional \$119.5 million for public schools**.

“Announcing big wins like this gives all of our players the chance to hope and dream that they could be next,” said California Lottery Director Harjinder K. Shergill Chima. “But it also gives us an opportunity to shine the spotlight on our terrific mission, which is to generate additional, supplemental funding for public education in California. So, it’s students of all ages across the state, who win every day thanks to our players, our retail partners who sell these fun games, and our hard-working staff here at the Lottery. This is an exciting day for all of us!”

Midway Market – a family-owned business for 30 years – received a \$1,000,000 bonus check for selling the incredibly lucky ticket. California Lottery’s more than 23,000 retail partners collectively earned more than \$18 million in commissions and bonuses during that historic three-month jackpot run.

This was the second largest U.S. lottery jackpot ever won, coming in behind the record-breaking \$2.04 billion Powerball jackpot of 2022, also hit in California.

California Lottery players have won, or co-won, the top four-largest jackpots in *Powerball* history dating back to 2016 – all worth more than \$1 billion.



calottery

education

calottery.com

The next *Powerball* draw will happen Saturday and carries a jackpot currently estimated at \$600 million. Similarly, the *Mega Millions* prize pot has also been surging, with a jackpot just increased to an estimated **\$815 million for the draw tonight**.

The current Mega Millions run, which has been going for more than three months, has helped California Lottery raise an estimated \$59.9 million for public schools.

For every *Powerball* or *Mega Millions* ticket sold in California, approximately 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.

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.

#

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](#).



education
calottery.com