

PRESS RELEASE

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 15, 2024 PIO@calottery.com @calotterypress

'Shell-Shocked' Nurse Discovers Cure for Debt After Turning \$10 Investment Into \$1 Million Scratchers® Win!

Plus, More Winners Join Become California Lottery's Latest Millionaires

SACRAMENTO – Stacy Hagberg was on break at her nurse station where she says she always scratches her California Lottery games. The Shasta County nurse had stopped by an ampm on the way to her overnight shift to grab an energy drink and some Scratchers.



"I started scratching and saw the one and commas and was like, 'Oh my God,'" she told the California Lottery. "My coworker thought I was telling her she did something wrong, and I said 'No, I think I just won a million dollars!"

Hagberg said what's even more incredible is she hadn't even planned on buying the \$10 *Power 10's* game that made her one of California's newest millionaires.

"I usually buy a few of a different game I like playing but they only had one of those left," she explained. "So, I bought it and randomly picked out three *Power 10's*. If they had had more of the game I usually buy, I wouldn't have bought the *Power 10's* and won the million dollars! It was meant to be."

At first, Hagberg said she had a difficult time believing she'd just become an instant millionaire.

"I scanned it, and had about five people look," she explained. 'It didn't really sink in until I had the money and could see it in my bank account. It still feels surreal."



Although she's still going to work as a nurse, Hagberg is relieved she can finally live comfortably. "I'm debt-free and I can finally think about retirement," Hagberg said. "I used to feel I'd probably have to work until the day I died!"

The owner of the ampm, on Churn Creek Road in Redding, receives a \$5,000 bonus for selling Hagberg her winning Scratchers.

Hagberg joins a whole slew of new California Lottery millionaires.

Andres Gamboa is taking home \$5,800,000, thanks to winning the top prize on a *Royal Riches* Scratchers game. That winning ticket came from the 7-Eleven on Fremont Blvd. in Fremont.

Casey Cogbill matched five of six numbers from a *Powerball*® drawing back in August. He later claimed that prize of \$1,176,502. This lucky ticket came from Romey's Liquors in Woodland.

Michael Turner is \$2,000,000 richer after hitting the top prize on a \$10 *Millionaire Maker* Scratchers. This game was sold at Novato U Save Liquor.

Lizbeth Sanchez Salinas won \$1 million playing a \$10 *Multiplier Craze* Scratchers. That lucky ticket was picked up at a 7-Eleven on S. Blosser Road in Santa Maria.

Sungwook Joo was also lucky to win \$1 million, playing *Multiplier Craze*. This game was sold at Mimi Lotto DTLA on S. Hill Street in Los Angeles.

The final four winners being unveiled today all took home the \$2 million top prize playing *Instant Prize Crossword* Scratchers games:

Luz Meza's lucky ticket was fittingly bought from Lucky Liquor & Mart on Lankershim Boulevard in North Hollywood.

Reema Issa's game was sold at Westchester Mobil on W. Manchester Avenue in Los Angeles.

Petra Romero's sweet \$2 million prize came on a ticket purchased from Rose Donuts & Ice Cream in Inglewood.

Ricardo Gomez Troncoso rounds out the latest batch of *Instant Prize Crossword* winners. This winning ticket was sold at the Valero gas station mart in Paso Robles.

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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 \$46 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 <u>Scratchers</u> games each year. More than 95% of California Lottery sales revenue goes back to the community in the form of prize payments, <u>retailer commissions and bonuses</u>, and contributions to education. More information about who benefits can be found <u>here</u>. California Lottery is also committed to promoting <u>responsible gaming</u>. 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 this is at 1-800-GAMBLER.

