

PRESS RELEASE

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'Now They Know It's Possible!'

Winner Quiets Her Skeptics After a Special Shopping Trip She'll Never Forget

Plus, CA Lottery Unveils Winner of \$20 Million SuperLotto Plus® Jackpot

SACRAMENTO – Annette Lopez refused to allow her playful detractors crush her hopes and dreams of striking it rich and becoming a member of exclusive

California Lottery millionaires club.

"People would always say, 'I don't know why you keep playing. You're not going to win anything," Lopez told the California Lottery with a laugh.

The people who teased her aren't so vocal anymore! That's because she silenced her skeptics with a thrilling top prize win of \$1 million win on a *Power 10's* Scratchers game she bought during a special shopping trip to the Save Mart in Merced.

"It was special because not only was it my sister's birthday, but it was also Mother's Day weekend. I went to the store to get stuff for Mother's Day and decided to play," Lopez said. "At first, I wasn't sure I won. I had to get my glasses. When I looked at it again, I started tripping out. It was the best Mother's Day!"

Lopez said she still gets emotional talking about it because the huge prize she won on a \$10 investment has helped change her life.





Lopez isn't the only player to take home a gigantic prize this summer.

Hyo Suk Jang won a whopping \$20,000,000 after hitting the <u>SuperLotto Plus jackpot</u> from the draw back on February 3. The lucky ticket came from Y & Y Market in Los Angeles.

Sok Ban Ngeap won \$2,085,363 on a *Powerball*® ticket purchased for the <u>Christmas Day 2023 draw</u>. That ticket was bought at Thirst Quencher Liquor in Burbank.

Steve Butkus won \$1,622,816 on a *Powerball* ticket in the <u>April 3 drawing</u>. That ticket was purchased at Albertsons in San Dimas.

Amalia Navarro won \$1,058,180 on a *Mega Millions*® ticket for the <u>March 26 draw</u>. Her ticket came from D & K Liquor on Van Nuys.

Jose Luis Torres is taking home \$5,000,000 after winning the top prize on a *Lucky Multiplier* Scratchers game purchased at La Placita Plaza Market in Nipomo.

Oscar Melendez also scored a \$5,000,000 top prize on a *Year of Fortune* Scratchers, which came from the 7-Eleven on Atlantic Avenue in Long Beach.

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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 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. 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.

