

PRESS RELEASE

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California Lottery Ticket Wins More Than \$2 Million as Mega Millions® Jackpot Inches Closer to a Billion

SACRAMENTO – The projected *Mega Millions* jackpot has climbed to \$800 million after nobody matched all six numbers in Friday's night's draw. One ticket sold in Southern California, however, came close with five of the right numbers, winning a prize worth \$2,233,779. The winning numbers are 6, 23, 41, 59, 63, and 25.

There were more than 249,000 winning Mega Millions tickets at various prize levels sold across California. The \$2.2 million winner came from the ARCO ampm at 29700 Date Palm Drive in Cathedral City. That shop earns a bonus of more than \$11,000 just for selling the big winning ticket.

The current *Mega Millions* jackpot has been growing for three months, with no grand prize winners yet. Public schools, though, are getting a boost from this run; **the California Lottery has raised more than an estimated \$60 million for education** from *Mega Millions* sales alone since early June.

Generating <u>additional funds for public education</u> is the sole mission of the California Lottery. For every *Mega Millions* ticket sold in California, approximately 80 cents goes to help public schools, kindergarten through the college and university level.

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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.

