



PRESS RELEASE

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Newest California Lottery Scratchers® Winner Plays It Cool With \$7.5 Million Prize

Nothing to See Here, Just a New Millionaire Heading to Work

SACRAMENTO – Joel McCauley often stops at Liquor, Tobacco & More on Rengstorff Avenue in Mountain View, to buy the latest Scratchers games on his way to work. After purchasing and playing a game, he'll scan it in the store to check if it's a winner, then head out to his truck and off to work.

When asked how long he's been playing, Joel casually replied, "Oh, 10 or 20 years or so." McCauley's no stranger to winning, noting he's won "10K a couple of times."

This time, after scratching off his 2025 Scratchers, he scanned it and thought he had won a few thousand again.

"At first, I thought it was \$7,500," he explained. After heading to his truck, he decided to scan the ticket again with the California Lottery app on his phone. That's when he discovered he had actually won the top prize in the 2025 game, an astonishing \$7.5 million!

"So, I turned my truck around and took the ticket home to leave it there," he said as if it was a normal part of his day.

Then, again, as if nothing unusual had just happened, Joel went off to work. He doesn't plan on quitting his job. Instead, he intends to invest his winnings and keep driving his truck to work every day, always stopping by his favorite store to pick up the latest California Lottery game that catches his eye.



2025 Scratchers Game purchased at Liquor, Tobacco & More at 1040 N Rengstorff Ave, Mountain View.

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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](#). 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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