

PRESS RELEASE

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 15, 2025 PIO@calottery.com @calotterypress

California Lottery Player Finds Luck on Valentine's Day

SACRAMENTO – One lucky California Lottery player is about to become the state's newest millionaire after matching the first five numbers correctly in Friday night's *Mega Millions*® drawing. The <u>winning numbers</u> were 11, 19, 31, 49, 56 and Mega ball 16.

The big winning ticket came from the Stater Bros on Highway 111 in La Quinta. That ticket is now worth \$1,499,864, and the store earns a bonus of nearly \$7,500 for selling it.

While the jackpot evaded players across the country, there were almost 55,000 winning tickets in California across the other eight prize levels. Because no one matched all six numbers, the top prize is now estimated to be \$145 million for Tuesday's drawing.

Mega Millions tickets are \$2 each, and about 80 cents from each ticket sold in California helps support public education. The California Lottery has raised more than \$46 million since its inception 40 years ago. There's a lot more information on how that money has been distributed to public schools can be found on the California Lottery's website at www.calottery.com/who-benefits.

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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.

