



## PRESS RELEASE

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# Winter Magic Mistake! Scratchers® Winner Gets Shocking News as He Claims \$1 Million Prize

*Plus, Five More New Lottery Millionaires to Kick Off 2025*

**SACRAMENTO** – As he walked out of Koko’s Liquor in Los Angeles with his winning *Winter Magic Multiplier* Scratchers game, Jeffry Figueroa had one main thought among lots of emotions of joy and relief swirling around in his head.

“I thought I’d won a thousand dollars,” Figueroa told the California Lottery. “I was happy because I was planning to pay my rent with that money.”

He drove to the California Lottery office in Santa Fe Springs, expecting to claim his prize and go home with a check for \$1,000. Imagine the shock when Lottery staff told him he’d made a significant mistake.

His winning game wasn’t worth \$1,000. In his moment of initial excitement, he’d overlooked three zeros and was actually the winner of the game’s top prize of \$1,000,000!

“When they told me, I was shaking so much I could barely sign the claim form,” he said. “It was so surreal. I still can’t believe it!”

Koko’s Liquor wins too, collecting a \$5,000 bonus for selling Figueroa his lucky ticket.

In addition to Figueroa, five other players have joined the Lottery’s millionaires club to start the new year!



**Danny Separzadeh** banked \$2 million, thanks to winning the top prize on an *Instant Prize Crossword* game. That winning ticket came from an ampm in Mission Hills.

**Joe Alfaro** also lucked out on an *Instant Prize Crossword*, winning \$2 million as well. His ticket was sold at Imperial Liquor in Van Nuys.

**Emilio Espinoza Lozada** won \$1 million playing a *Single Double Triple Scratchers*. He got his ticket at the G&M gas station in Torrance.

Up in Northern California, **Fredi Zunun** just became \$1,000,000 richer after stopping by a 7-Eleven in Mill Valley. Zunun picked up a *\$1M Ultimate Cash! Scratchers* and won the game's top prize.

Rounding out the latest millionaires is **Jaime Boland**. She bought a *Winter Magic Multiplier Scratchers* during a grocery shopping trip at Oliver's Market in Santa Rosa and, like Figueroa, won the top prize of \$1 million.

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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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