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## ABILENE WOMAN LEARNS LAS VEGAS TRIP TOPIC OF LETTER SHE FIRST THOUGHT WAS JUNK MAIL

**(Austin)** – Debra Smith of Abilene finally opened a letter from the Texas Lottery<sup>®</sup> that she'd left lying around for an entire week, and then didn't believe what the letter said, that she had won a trip to Las Vegas to participate in a special Texas-only edition of *The Price Is Right*<sup>®</sup>.

"I thought the letter was junk mail, and after I opened it, I thought it was a gimmick," Smith said. "I thought the letter was not from the Texas Lottery, that it only looked like it was, and then I was sure it was one of those things that's not real. When I really read the letter, was I surprised!"

The letter stated what her prize entailed, a four-day, three-night trip for her and a guest, with a chance to be selected at random to sit in Contestants' Row and bid on prizes. Four winners selected at random will each get a turn at the Big Money Wheel for an opportunity to win prizes from \$1,000 to \$1 million.

"Ms. Smith's name was drawn in the first of four second-chance drawings," said Texas Lottery Commission Executive Director Gary Grief. "We have two more scheduled, one coming up on May 3 and another one in June. The third has not been set and will depend on when the end-date of this game is scheduled. We expect the final drawing to occur two weeks after the end-date is determined."

Smith said she sent in her *The Price Is Right*<sup>®</sup> tickets, never expecting to win anything. "I figured I didn't have anything to lose except the price of the postage stamps, and then I won this. Now I tell people that if they want to win, they better buy a ticket and then send in those second-chance tickets to the drawing. They might wind up with a chance to go to Las Vegas like me."

**(more)**

**(Texas Lottery Commission News Release, continued)**

Tomorrow night's *Mega Millions*<sup>®</sup> jackpot is an estimated \$72 million. Saturday's *Lotto Texas*<sup>®</sup> jackpot is an estimated \$14 million, and the *Powerball*<sup>®</sup> jackpot is an estimated \$43 million. There is more information about the Texas Lottery available on the official website, [www.txlottery.org](http://www.txlottery.org).

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