



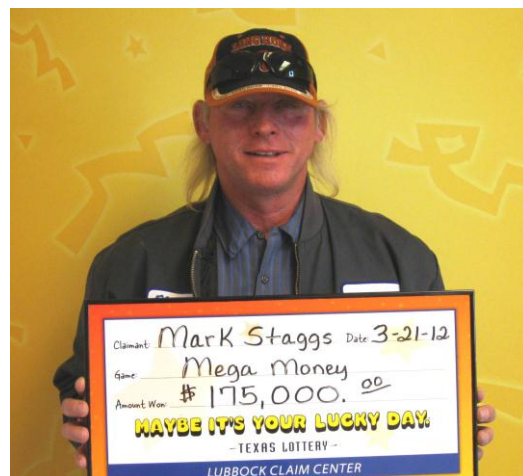
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CONTACT: Media Relations, 512-344-5131
mediarelations@lottery.state.tx.us

WEST TEXAS *MEGA MONEY* PLAYER SCRATCHES HIS WAY TO \$175,000 TOP PRIZE

(AUSTIN) – In the past, Mark D. Staggs of Amherst always thought the 19th was the best day of the month to buy his Texas Lottery[®] scratch-off games. Staggs has a new lucky day now though – the 21st – after claiming a \$175,000 top prize in the \$5 *Mega Money* game yesterday at the Texas Lottery claim center in Lubbock.

“I was shocked when I scratched the ticket and saw the prize,” said Staggs. “The 21st will definitely be my lucky day from here on out.”



Staggs said he plans to use his winnings to buy a new house and car. He purchased his winning ticket at the Allsup's #256 located at 1200 U.S. Highway 84 in Amherst.

Two top prizes of \$175,000 each currently remain unclaimed in the *Mega Money* game. Overall odds of winning any prize are one in 3.5, including break-even prizes.

Tonight's *Texas Two Step*[®] jackpot is an advertised \$1.75 million. Friday's *Mega Millions*[®] jackpot is an estimated \$290 million. Saturday's *Powerball*[®] jackpot is an estimated \$40 million, and the *Lotto Texas*[®] jackpot is an estimated \$14 million.

Beginning with the first ticket sold in 1992, the Texas Lottery has generated more than \$19 billion in revenue for the state and distributed \$37 billion in prizes to lottery players. Since 1997, the Texas Lottery has contributed \$14 billion to the Foundation School Fund, which supports

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public education in Texas. As authorized by the Texas Legislature, certain Texas Lottery revenues benefit state programs including the Fund for Veterans' Assistance.

Celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, the Texas Lottery provides several entertaining games for lottery players including *Powerball*, *Mega Millions*, *Lotto Texas*, *Texas Two Step*, *Pick 3*[™], *Daily 4*[™], *Cash Five*[®] and scratch-offs. For more information about the Texas Lottery, please visit **www.txlottery.org**.

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