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PALESTINE WOMAN FOLLOWS WINNING STREAK TO \$1 MILLION PRIZE IN \$500,000,000 BLOCKBUSTER

(AUSTIN) – A winning streak that started Sunday led Brenda Richardson of Palestine to purchase a \$500,000,000 *Blockbuster* ticket at J J's #211. That ticket revealed one of 40 \$1 million prizes available in the game.

“I bought a ticket Sunday and won some money and cashed it in,” said Richardson, who used her winnings to buy a \$500,000,000 *Blockbuster* ticket. “I won \$50 on that one and bought another, and won \$100 on that one and got this ticket.”



Although she just purchased her winning ticket yesterday, Richardson already has a clear idea of how she'll use the money. “Like everyone, I want to pay off some debts. I'll also put some away for retirement. Mainly, I keep telling myself to be calm and be wise.”

Richardson received her prize at the Texas Lottery® Claim Center in Tyler, but she won't be the only one to benefit from the win. For selling the winning ticket, J J's #211, 1901 Crockett Road in Palestine, is eligible for a retailer bonus of \$10,000.

“The \$500,000,000 *Blockbuster* has been a particularly successful game, regularly showing up as our top-selling scratch-off. It's good news for our retailers and even better news for Texas education because revenues from the game support the Foundation School Fund,” said Texas Lottery Commission Executive Director Gary Grief.

(more)

(Texas Lottery Commission, News Release, continued)

Boasting more than half a billion dollars in total prizes, the *\$500,000,000 Blockbuster* game has six top prizes of \$2.5 million each and 19 prizes of \$1 million remaining unclaimed. Overall odds of winning any prize are one in 2.77, including break-even prizes.

For Texas Lottery players hoping to replicate Richardson's win, she has just one piece of advice, "You can't win if you don't play, but don't spend your milk money – be responsible."

Tonight's *Powerball*[®] jackpot is an estimated \$64 million, and the *Lotto Texas*[®] jackpot is an estimated \$5 million. Friday's *Mega Millions*[®] jackpot is an estimated \$100 million.

For more information about the Texas Lottery, please visit the official website at **www.txlottery.org**.

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