

Texas Lottery Commission Press Release - March 1, 2003

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Rio Grande Valley Player Wins \$20,000 Prize With First-Time Texas Lottery Purchase

(Austin, March 1) - For Nancy B. Garcia of McAllen, buying her first instant game ticket from the Texas Lottery™ proved to be a \$20,000 experience she hopes to repeat. On a whim, Garcia decided to purchase one *Beat the House* scratch-off ticket after seeing a customer in front of her buy one. After scratching the ticket on Sunday night, she couldn't wait to claim her prize from the Texas Lottery Claim Center in Harlingen on Monday morning.

"Since I had never played any of the Texas Lottery games before, I didn't know if I won, so I went back inside to ask the cashier," said Garcia.

Garcia purchased her \$2 game ticket at Circle K #9650, 201 W. Nolana, McAllen, Texas.

She explained that after screaming a little, she told her children, who are very excited. "I really want to buy a car and a few things for my two boys."

Now that she's experienced the thrill of winning, Garcia said she will try some of the other lottery games, such as *Lotto Texas*™. The jackpot for that game's Saturday drawing is worth an estimated \$12 million.

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The Texas Lottery, the 4th largest selling lottery in North America, is "Focusing on the Future of Education, One Ticket At A Time." By providing the 'Games of Texas' for more than 10 years, the Texas Lottery Commission (TLC) has generated more than \$10 billion for the state and paid nearly \$17 billion to players in prizes. For more information about the TLC, please visit the official website at <http://www.txlottery.org>

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