

Texas Lottery Commission Press Release - September 26, 2002

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Taft *Lotto Texas*[™] Winner Says, "I'm Real Lucky At Picking Lottery Numbers"



Texas Lottery Director of Operations Gary Grief presents a ceremonial check for \$4.5 million to winner Alvertia Carter, who is accompanied by her family.

(Austin, September 26) - Ask 74-year-old Alvertia Carter to tell you something she's good at, and the long-time Taft resident will quickly say she's "real good at picking out those lottery numbers." Carter's number-picking prowess paid off. She correctly matched all six numbers for the Saturday, September 21, *Lotto Texas* drawing, worth an estimated \$7 million. The numbers drawn were: 32-10-35-47-06-19.

"It feels so good," Carter said. "I kept telling my husband, 'I'm gonna win, I'm gonna win. He'd always say, 'No you're not.' "

Carter explained she has played *Lotto* since the game's inception, and used to spend \$10 per week. "Then I got to thinking, I only have to win on one line, so I cut it down to \$5 a week," she said.

Carter purchased the jackpot winning ticket at her favorite lottery retailer, Big Diamond #36, located at 302 Highway 181 in Taft. She said she always buys her tickets there, and called the store the morning following the *Lotto* drawing.

"I thought I had only gotten five of the numbers," she explained. "When I called to find out how much it paid out, I didn't think the girl was telling me correctly. She told me to come into the store the next day, and she would run my ticket through the machine.

"When I went in on Monday morning, she ran it through and told me, 'You have all six numbers,' " Carter said.

Carter and her husband, Lester, then drove to the Texas Lottery's Corpus Christi Claim Center to find out how to claim her jackpot prize. After speaking with lottery officials, she decided to claim the jackpot today. Carter chose the Cash Value Option and will receive more than \$4.5 million, before federal taxes are withheld.

"That's a whole lot of zeros," she said.

Carter also said that while she has "a bunch of plans for the money, I will take the time to think about it."

"I'm so happy," she added. "Tears keep coming to my eyes."

The retail owner is eligible to receive a bonus of \$70,000 for selling the jackpot winning *Lotto* ticket.

As of today, there are still two *Lotto Texas* tickets outstanding. There has been no official contact from the ticketholder(s) of the \$9 million *Lotto Texas* ticket from the drawing held July 13. The ticket was purchased in Dallas at the 7-Eleven store, located at 3329 Oak Lawn Boulevard.

A second unclaimed 6-of-6 ticket was sold for the \$19 million *Lotto* jackpot from the Saturday, August 31 drawing. That ticket was purchased at 7 Days Food Store, located at 5203 Griggs Road in Houston.

Saturday's *Lotto Texas* jackpot is worth is worth an estimated \$4 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>