



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Friday, January 28, 2011

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SCRATCH-OFF FAN FROM EULESS WINS \$1 MILLION TOP PRIZE IN TEXAS LOTTERY® BLACK

(Austin) – Although it was just introduced on January 17, the *Texas Lottery® Black* scratch-off game has already awarded its second prize of \$1 million. Calvin Patten of Euless claimed the top prize today at the Texas Lottery® Claim Center in Fort Worth.

“I scratched the ticket right there at the store where I bought it,” explained Patten. “I ran it under the machine, and it said to contact the lottery, so I knew I’d won more than \$600. I scratched the rest of the ticket real slow, and when I saw the prize, I couldn’t believe it.”

Asked about his plans for the money, Patten said, “We’re going to be getting a house and maybe a car or two and putting money aside for college tuition for my daughter. This is going to let us keep working and be a little more comfortable.”

“It seems appropriate for Mr. Patten to use a portion of his winnings toward his child’s education,” said Texas Lottery Commission Executive Director Gary Grief. “After all, approximately 27 cents of every dollar earned by the Texas Lottery goes to the Foundation School Fund to support public education in the state.”

With more than \$44 million in total prizes, the *Texas Lottery® Black* ticket features overall odds of winning any prize of one in 3.32, including break-even prizes. Four top prizes of \$1 million each remain unclaimed.

Patten says the key to winning is persistence. “Just keep playing, and it could happen to you.”

(more)

(Texas Lottery Commission, News Release, continued)

For selling the winning ticket, the Euless Corner Store located at 699 E. Harwood Road, Suite 010, in Euless is eligible for a retailer bonus of \$10,000.

Tonight's *Mega Millions*[®] jackpot is an estimated \$77 million. Saturday's *Powerball*[®] jackpot is an estimated \$25 million, and the *Lotto Texas*[®] jackpot is an estimated \$19 million.

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

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