

Texas Lottery Commission

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NEWS

from the Texas Lottery Commission

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SHORTLY AFTER BIRTHDAY, WEEKLY BONUS WINNER GETS A GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

(AUSTIN) – It wasn't long after his birthday that Houston resident Mario Longoria made a quick stop at a Valero Corner Store while on his way to pick up his daughter for the weekend. His decision ultimately rewarded him with a *Weekly Bonus* top prize.

"I went into the store for some water. While I was there, I thought, 'Let me get one ticket,' and I got the *Weekly Bonus*," said Longoria.

After checking the winning number, he scratched the row of numbers to the right.

"I got a matching number 14, but I had never scratched the amount. Then I scratched the prize and saw the \$500 a week," he explained. "That's a good birthday present."

Longoria claimed the second top prize in the \$1 instant game, and three top prizes remain unclaimed. The *Weekly Bonus* scratch-off ticket features more than \$18.2 million in total prizes, with a top prize of \$500 a week for 20 years, not to exceed \$520,000.

"Like all of our annuity games, the *Weekly Bonus* offers players the chance to experience that winning feeling over and over," said Texas Lottery Commission Deputy Executive Director Gary Grief. "Finding this prize so

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close to his birthday only makes Mr. Longoria's win that much more impressive."

Longoria says he has modest, practical plans for his new income.

"Right now, I want to get all my bills paid. Then I'll see what else I want to do."

The Valero Corner Store #2648, located at 10302 Interstate Highway 10 Service Road in Jacinto City, sold Longoria the winning ticket.

Friday's *Mega Millions*[®] jackpot is worth an estimated \$57 million. Saturday's *Lotto Texas*[®] jackpot is worth an estimated \$16 million.

For more information about the Texas Lottery[®], please visit the official Web site at http://www.txlottery.org.

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The Texas Lottery supports Texas education.

NOTE TO EDITORS: A photograph of Mario Longoria and video of the official check presentation are available upon request. Please contact Robyn Smith at (512)344-5477 or Robyn.Smith@lottery.state.tx.us.