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CHARITABLE BINGO RECEIPTS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2010 HIGHEST EVER

(Austin) – Calendar year 2010 is the highest grossing ever for charitable bingo since the game was legalized in 1981. Total receipts exceeded \$698.6 million, and players won a record \$526.1 million in prizes.

“The total receipts of \$698.6 million are an increase of more than \$5.4 million over the previous year,” said Charitable Bingo Division Director Phil Sanderson. “Despite the fact that distributions to charitable organizations had increased every year from 2002 to 2009, last year we saw a downturn of \$2.25 million in distributions compared to the previous year, going from \$36 million to \$33.7 million. Total distributions since 1981 now exceed \$971 million.”

The chart below compares charitable bingo activity during the last two calendar years.

2010

2009

Total Gross Receipts	\$698,649,168	\$693,291,930
Charitable Distributions	\$33,786,771	\$36,039,651
Pull Tab Sales	\$326,886,837	\$318,705,418
Pull Tab Prizes	\$234,736,088	\$229,811,686
Regular Sales	\$371,762,331	\$374,586,512
Regular Prizes	\$291,367,771	\$288,581,987
Total Prizes	\$526,103,859	\$518,393,673

(more)

(Texas Lottery Commission News Release, continued)

Attendance at bingo occasions exceeded 658 million since the game was legalized in 1981.

“Overall, the attendance for 2010 was down from the same period in 2009, while we did see a slight increase in the number of occasions,” Sanderson said. “The average attendance per bingo occasion is slightly down; however, the average amount spent per player did increase slightly over the previous year. Despite a slight decline in attendance, charitable bingo is still fun for players of all ages, especially long-time players who enjoy playing not only because the game is entertaining, but also because it gives them a chance to socialize with other long-faithful aficionados who feel the same way.”

During 2010, 1,181 non-profits conducted charitable bingo games.

For more information about charitable bingo, please visit the official website, www.txbingo.org.

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