TEXAS LOTTERY COMMISSION News Release

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CONTACT: Media Relations, 512-344-5131

mediarelations@lottery.state.tx.us



PORTER PLAYER CLAIMS \$2.5 MILLION TOP PRIZE IN \$500,000,000 BLOCKBUSTER SCRATCH-OFF GAME

(AUSTIN) – Melvin W Gehrels of Porter claimed a \$2.5 million top prize in the \$500,000,000 Blockbuster scratch-off game Tuesday at Texas Lottery® headquarters in Austin.

Gehrels purchased his ticket at the Olee's Quickie Picky located at 23373 FM 1314 Road in Porter. The retailer is eligible for a \$10,000 bonus for selling the winning ticket.

\$500,000,000 Blockbuster offers more than half-a-billion dollars in total prizes. Five \$1 million prizes and one top prize of \$2.5 million remain unclaimed in the game. Overall odds of winning any prize are one in 2.77, including break-even prizes.

Friday's Mega Millions[®] jackpot is an estimated \$42 million. Saturday's Powerball[®] jackpot is an estimated \$113 million, and the *Lotto Texas*[®] jackpot is an estimated \$20 million.

Beginning with the first ticket sold in 1992, the Texas Lottery has generated more than \$19 billion in revenue for the state and distributed \$37 billion in prizes to lottery players. Since 1997, the Texas Lottery has contributed more than \$14 billion to the Foundation School Fund, which supports public education in Texas. As authorized by the Texas Legislature, certain Texas Lottery revenues benefit state programs including the Fund for Veterans' Assistance.

Celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, the Texas Lottery provides several entertaining games for lottery players including *Powerball*, Mega Millions, Lotto Texas, Texas Two Step[®], Pick 3^{TM} , Daily 4^{TM} , Cash Five and scratch-offs. For more information about the Texas Lottery, please visit www.txlottery.org.

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