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JACKPOT ALERT: *MEGA MILLIONS*® JACKPOT AN ESTIMATED \$400 MILLION

(AUSTIN) –Texas Lottery[®] players are playing for an estimated \$400 million jackpot for Tuesday night's *Mega Millions*[®] drawing. <u>This is the third largest *Mega Millions* jackpot on record and the seventh largest jackpot for any U.S. lottery game.</u> The jackpot has a cash value of \$224.8 million.

If there are no jackpot winners for tonight's drawing, the jackpot for Friday's drawing will be an estimated \$490 million.

Mega Millions is played by picking five different numbers from one to 75 and one number from one to 15. To win the Mega Millions jackpot, players must match all six numbers drawn including the Mega Ball. Players matching fewer numbers may not win the jackpot, but still walk away big winners. By choosing the Megaplier® for \$1 more per play, players can multiply their non-jackpot winnings by two, three, four or five times, winning as much as \$5 million.

Texas joined the *Mega Millions* game in 2003 and the state has had 10 *Mega Millions* jackpot prize winners.

Mega Millions is played in 45 jurisdictions: 43 states plus the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The *Mega Millions* game began on Aug. 31, 1996 as the *Big Game*. The first drawing took place on Sept. 6, 1996. *Mega Millions* drawings are held Tuesday and Friday at 10 p.m. Central Time.

About the Texas Lottery

Beginning with the first ticket sold in 1992, the Texas Lottery has generated \$21 billion in revenue for the state and distributed \$42 billion in prizes to lottery players. Since 1997, the Texas Lottery has contributed \$16 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.

The Texas Lottery provides several entertaining games for lottery players including *Powerball*[®], *Mega Millions*[®], *Lotto Texas*[®], *All or Nothing*[™], *Texas Two Step*[®], *Pick 3*TM, *Daily 4*TM, *Cash Five*[®] and scratch-offs. For more information visit us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube or at www.txlottery.org.

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