



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, December 09, 2009

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\$500,000,000 BLOCKBUSTER AWARDS 12TH PRIZE OF \$1 MILLION JUST IN TIME FOR HOLIDAYS

(Austin) –The holidays are fast approaching and Renée B. Lewis of Beaumont couldn't be happier about the timing of her win. She claimed the 12th prize of \$1 million in the \$500,000,000 *Blockbuster* game today.

"I've been playing since it came out, sporadically. I was on my way home last night when I stopped at the store and decided to get one," she said. "I scratched it in my driveway and kept looking up-down-up-down. I had to be sure the numbers matched."



Lewis immediately took the ticket to her husband, and they started making plans together.

"It was a wonderful, wonderful feeling," she said. "I really slept well last night."

"With more than half a billion dollars in total prizes, the \$500,000,000 *Blockbuster* probably has a lot of our players dreaming about what they could do if they won," said Texas Lottery Commission Deputy Executive Director Gary Grief. "For Mrs. Lewis, those dreams can come true. She claimed a \$1 million prize, but seven top prizes of \$2.5 million and 28 prizes worth \$1 million each still remain unclaimed."

(more)

(Texas Lottery Commission, News Release, continued)

For selling the winning \$500,000,000 *Blockbuster* ticket, the Fuzzy's located at 4890 Concord Road in Beaumont is eligible to receive a retailer bonus of \$10,000.

Tonight's *Lotto Texas*® jackpot is an estimated \$17 million. Friday's *Mega Millions*® jackpot is an estimated \$100 million.

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

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Note to Editors: A photograph in jpg format is available by contacting Robyn Smith at 512-344-5477 or robyn.smith@lottery.state.tx.us.