

Texas Lottery Commission Press Release - July 10, 2001

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***MONTHLY MONEY* WINNER TAKES HOME \$150,000**

(Austin, July 10) - Donna Hajdek came to Texas three years ago from Illinois and didn't skip a Lottery-playing beat.

"I used to play in Illinois, so when I arrived here, I started playing right away," Hajdek said. "One time I won \$120 with the *Lotto*, but nothing as large as this *Monthly Money* prize."

Hajdek bought two *Monthly Money* instant tickets at the Food Fast located at 8604 Highway 64 East in Tyler almost two weeks ago. The top prize is \$2,500 per month for five years.

"I originally wanted another ticket when I went into the store to pay for the gas, but the clerk had to put a new role of what I wanted into the dispenser, so I told her to give me the *Monthly Money* instead," she said. "I scratched the tickets outside and I couldn't believe what I was seeing."

Hajdek walked back into the store shaking every step of the way to ask if "what I was seeing was real." The clerk confirmed she had a top prize winner.

"I started crying," an emotional Hajdek said. "I signed the ticket quickly, but even now, I still can hardly believe it."

The Tyler-area grandmother says she plans to pay off her land and treat her two grandchildren, ages 12 and seven, to a Disney World cruise in Florida at Christmas time.

"I also plan to travel a little," Hajdek said. "I love to travel and I just haven't had the chance to do any traveling in a long time. I haven't told my grandkids yet, it's going to be a surprise when they come back to town from their summer vacation."

To celebrate in the immediate, however, Hajdek said she might invite a couple of friends out to a nice dinner.

This was the last top prize in *Monthly Money*.

The winner requested minimal publicity.

Tonight's *Texas Two Step* prize is \$200,000. Wednesday's *Lotto Texas* jackpot is an estimated \$4 million.

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The Texas Lottery, the 4th largest selling lottery in North America, is "Focusing on the Future of Education, One Ticket At A Time." By providing the 'Games of Texas' for more than 10 years, the Texas Lottery Commission (TLC) has generated more than \$10 billion for the state and paid nearly \$17 billion to players in prizes. For more information about the TLC, please visit the official website at <http://www.txlottery.org>