

Texas Lottery Commission

PO Box 16630 Austin, Texas 78761-6630

FAX: (512) 344-5490

NEWS

from the Texas Lottery Commission

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Thursday, March 13, 2008

CONTACT:

Leticia Vásquez, 512-344-5208 Media Relations, 512-344-5131

TOLBERT FAMILY TRUST CLAIMS SHARE OF \$28 MILLION LOTTO TEXAS® JACKPOT PRIZE

(**AUSTIN**) –The Tolbert Family Trust, Bobby Joe Tolbert, Trustee, of Houston, has claimed one half of the \$28 million *Lotto Texas*[®] jackpot for the drawing on February 23.

The prize amount is \$14.3 million before taxes and will be paid out through the annuity option. This means the Tolbert Family Trust will receive 25 annual payments of \$560,000 beginning with an initial payment of \$883,430.98.

"I first thought my *Lotto* numbers were a computer misprint, so I didn't get excited," Bobby Tolbert said. "After I found out it was true, I gave thanks to the good Lord, over and over again for His blessings."

Tolbert said the trust will tithe to the church and then share the winnings with family.

"Mr. Tolbert has put his faith and his family first in consideration of how to manage this prize, which is a great start on the long-term handling of this \$14 million-plus jackpot," said Texas Lottery Commission Executive Director Anthony J. Sadberry. "The other half of the February 23 *Lotto* \$28 million jackpot has already been claimed by JM Hale, LP, of Addison. That ticket also was purchased with the annuity option, and, like the Tolbert Trust's ticket, it also was a Quick Pick."

The numbers drawn were 2 - 7 - 21 - 35 - 43 - 50.

(more)

(Texas Lottery Commission, News Release, continued)

The winner requested minimal publicity.

Fiesta Beverage #22, 12311 Main, in Houston sold the ticket. The retailer is eligible to receive a bonus that equals one percent of the prize, which comes to \$143,234.31.

Friday's *Mega Millions*[®] jackpot is worth an estimated \$59 million. Saturday's *Lotto Texas* jackpot is worth an estimated \$9 million.

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

• • •