

Texas Lottery Commission Press Release - January 31, 2003

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***Weekly Grand* Winner From Richardson Claims Million-Dollar Prize From Texas Lottery**



Marco Molé of Richardson with the results of his *Weekly Grand* scratch-off ticket.

(Austin, January 31) - While buying his *Lotto Texas*TM ticket last weekend, Marco Molé of Richardson also bought a *Weekly Grand* scratch-off ticket when it caught his eye. It proved to be a good idea, as he claimed the instant game's top prize today from Texas LotteryTM headquarters. The prize, \$1,000 a week for 20 years, comes to a total of \$1.04 million before taxes. It was officially awarded to the Marco A. Molé Trust.

"What's amazing is that I bought the *Weekly Grand* ticket on Saturday when I bought my *Lotto Texas* ticket and then I just forgot about it," exclaimed Molé, an air conditioner installer. "It stayed in the visor of my truck until Tuesday morning."

That's when Molé realized he had not scratched off the ticket, which he promptly did before leaving for work.

"I really couldn't believe it; I freaked out and jumped up and down," said Molé. "I called my girlfriend, Linda, and when I asked her if she wanted to quit her job, she really didn't believe me."

"You know, I play every now and then because my mother told me to never give up; she said someone wins sometime."

Molé bought his winning *Weekly Grand* ticket at S A Food Mart, located at 1401 E. Arapaho, Suite A, in Richardson. The retailer is eligible to receive a bonus of \$10,000 for selling the top-prize winning ticket.

Molé said he hopes the extra income will help make things a little more comfortable for him, his girlfriend, and his daughters. Only 46, he looks forward to the possibility of early retirement because of this unexpected windfall.

"A couple of years ago I won a couple of hundred dollars on a different scratch game on my birthday and I thought I was really

lucky then," he added. "This win shows that you never know when the icing on the cake will come."

The \$2 instant game, *Weekly Grand*, is one of the most popular instant games from the Texas Lottery and has been reissued nine times since it began in 1995.