

Texas Lottery Commission Press Release - November 14, 2003

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Saturday Marks 11th Anniversary Of First *Lotto Texas*[™] Drawing

(Austin, November 14) - It was just eleven years ago that those little balls first tumbled around in a *Lotto Texas*[™] drawings machine, carrying the dreams of thousands of Texas Lottery® players looking for a piece of the *Lotto Texas* jackpot.

"*Lotto Texas* has been good for players, the State and our retailers," said Reagan E. Greer, Executive Director of the Texas Lottery Commission.

"Our *Lotto* jackpots ranged from \$2 million to \$85 million, and players hit the jackpot more than 480 times," said Greer. "We paid out more than \$4.4 billion in total prizes and generated almost \$3.4 billion for the State."

Greer said the game also had an impact on local economies with more than \$444 million paid in commissions to local retailers.

Lotto Texas has become synonymous with the Lottery itself, with "playing the *Lotto*" becoming the catch phrase for the full range of Texas Lottery games that now includes four on-line games, and the traditional Scratch Off games.

"This anniversary of the first jackpot drawing comes at a time when the Lottery is just weeks away from launching another big jackpot game, *Mega Millions*," said Greer.

Texas is the eleventh state to offer *Mega Millions*[™] - a game with jackpots that start at \$10 million and average more than \$42 million.

"With *Mega Millions* on Tuesdays and Fridays, and *Lotto* on Wednesdays and Saturdays, we're offering our players a chance to win big jackpots four nights a week," said Greer.

As we light up the candles on *Lotto*'s anniversary cake, billboards are also lighting up around the state, announcing the fact that Saturday's *Lotto Texas* jackpot is an estimated \$5 million.

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