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HAPPY HOLIDAYS AHEAD FOR \$1 MILLION METROPLEX *MERRY MILLIONS* WINNER

(AUSTIN) – Shelanie J. Muilenburg of Fort Worth is looking forward to the holidays even more than usual this year after claiming the third of five \$1 million top prizes in the \$20 *Merry Millions* scratch-off game last Thursday at the Texas Lottery® claim center in Fort Worth.

Muilenburg is an avid Texas Lottery player who prefers scratch-offs so she won't have to wait to see if she's won.

"I just decided to buy a bigger ticket," said Muilenburg. "I did and it paid off!"



Muilenburg has a variety of plans for her winnings, including buying a new house and car, paying off her bills, starting a business and investing the rest.

Muilenburg purchased her ticket at the 7-Eleven #34098 located at 6550 Forest Hill Drive in Forest Hill. The retailer is eligible for a \$10,000 bonus for selling the winning ticket.

"Congratulations and happy holidays to Ms. Muilenburg," said Texas Lottery Executive Director Gary Grief. "*Merry Millions* is just one of our popular holiday scratch-offs for our players to choose from at price points to fit any budget."

In addition to the two remaining top prizes of \$1 million, the *Merry Millions* game also offers thousands of lower-tier prizes from \$20 to \$10,000. Overall odds of winning any prize are one in 3.03, including break-even prizes. Other holiday-themed scratch-off games currently available from the Texas Lottery include the \$1 *Holiday Greetings*, the \$2 *Holiday Break the Bank*, the \$3 *Jingle Bell Crossword*, the \$5 *Nutcracker Cash* and the \$10 *Holiday Doubler*.

Tonight's *Mega Millions*® jackpot is an estimated \$12 million. Wednesday's *Powerball*® jackpot is an estimated \$143 million, and the *Lotto Texas*® jackpot is an estimated \$32 million.

About the Texas Lottery

Beginning with the first ticket sold in 1992, the Texas Lottery has generated more than \$20 billion in revenue for the state and distributed \$39 billion in prizes to lottery players. Since 1997, the Texas Lottery has contributed more than \$14 billion to the Foundation School Fund, which supports public education in Texas. As authorized by the Texas Legislature, certain Texas Lottery revenues benefit state programs including the Fund for Veterans' Assistance.

Celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, the Texas Lottery provides several entertaining games for lottery players including *Powerball*, *Mega Millions*, *Lotto Texas*, *All or Nothing*[™], *Texas Two Step*[®], *Pick 3*[™], *Daily 4*[™], *Cash Five*[®] and scratch-offs. For more information visit us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) or at www.txlottery.org.

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