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THE HOLIDAYS CAME EARLY FOR A \$1 MILLION *MERRY MILLIONS* WINNER FROM TELFERNER

(AUSTIN) – Richard Skinner of Telferner is celebrating the holidays early after winning \$1 million in the new Texas Lottery® scratch-off game, *Merry Millions*. This is the first of five top prizes in the game. Launched less than one week ago, *Merry Millions* has already paid out thousands of prizes. The game features more than \$38 million in total prizes and overall odds of one in 3.03.

Skinner's winning ticket came from Tipton's Conoco located at 5903 Houston Highway in Victoria, making the store eligible for a retailer bonus of \$10,000.

"We've been a lottery dealer for years, but we've never had a win like this," said Don Tipton of Tipton's Conoco. "Anytime you get a big winner, it's pretty exciting, and this person has been a good lottery customer."

"The holidays may still be months away, but big wins like this one can certainly make our players' days a little merrier. Of course, with more than \$14 billion contributed to the Foundation School Fund since 1997, Texas education remains the biggest winner of all," said Texas Lottery Commission Executive Director Gary Grief.

This claimant requested minimal publicity.

Tonight's *Mega Millions*® jackpot is an estimated \$53 million. Saturday's *Powerball*® jackpot is an estimated \$60 million and the *Lotto Texas*® jackpot is an estimated \$25 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

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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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