### **TEXAS LOTTERY COMMISSION News Release**

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## \*\*\*JACKPOT ALERT\*\*\*

# POWERBALL® JACKPOT \$360 MILLION FOR TONIGHT'S DRAWING

More than half a billion dollars up for grabs this week with Powerball® and Mega Millions® games

(AUSTIN) – With tonight's estimated \$360 million *Powerball* <sup>®</sup> jackpot, and no jackpot winners for last night's *Mega Millions* <sup>®</sup> drawing, lottery players across the country are playing for \$550 million this week. Tonight's jackpot is the third largest *Powerball* jackpot and the seventh largest jackpot in U.S. history, and has a cash payout of \$229.2 million. Friday's estimated \$190 million *Mega Millions* jackpot has a cash value of \$140.9 million.

If there are no winners for tonight's *Powerball* drawing, the jackpot for Saturday's drawing will be an estimated \$475 million.

"Since joining the game in 2010, Texas has not had a *Powerball* jackpot winner and we would be thrilled to have a Texan claim this huge prize," said Gary Grief, executive director of the Texas Lottery<sup>®</sup>.

In the past year, *Powerball* has created many millionaires in Texas with 30 lottery players winning second-tier prizes of \$1 million and \$2 million. Texas has had eight *Mega Millions* jackpot prize winners, the largest winner, William R. Kiefer of Katy, won \$144 million in January 2010.

The current *Powerball* jackpot started as a \$40 million prize on Apr. 3, and is the result of 12 draws without a jackpot winner. The largest *Powerball* jackpot was an advertised \$550 million for the drawing held on Nov. 28, 2012.

*Powerball* is a multistate game sold in 45 jurisdictions. *Powerball* players win the jackpot by correctly matching five numbers from a field of 59, plus the *Powerball* number from a field of 35.

(more)

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The second-tier prize, awarded for matching all five numbers, but not the *Powerball* number is \$1 million. Players can increase their second-tier prize to \$2 million if they purchase the \$1 add-on feature *Power Play*® with their ticket. Odds of winning the jackpot prize are one in 175,223,510, and overall odds of winning any prize are one in 32.

#### About the Texas Lottery

Beginning with the first ticket sold in 1992, the Texas Lottery has generated \$21 billion in revenue for the state and distributed \$40 billion in prizes to lottery players. Since 1997, the Texas Lottery has contributed \$15 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.

The Texas Lottery provides several entertaining games for lottery players including *Powerball*, *Mega Millions*, *Lotto Texas with Extra!*  $^{\text{TM}}$ , *All or Nothing*  $^{\text{TM}}$ , *Texas Two Step*  $^{\text{®}}$ , *Pick 3*  $^{\text{TM}}$ , *Daily 4*  $^{\text{TM}}$ , *Cash Five*  $^{\text{®}}$  and scratch-offs. For more information visit us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>YouTube</u> or at <u>www.txlottery.org</u>.

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