Contact:

Texas Lottery Commission Press Release - April 4, 2003

Sylvia Womble-Saenz, 512-344-5216 Leticia Vasquez, 512-344-5208

## \$35 Million Lotto Texas Jackpot Claimed By Houston Partnership

(Austin, April 4) - Today, Blue Pearl, Ltd., claimed the \$35 million *Lotto Texas*<sup>TM</sup> jackpot from the drawing on March 19. Donald Joseph Cohn, President of BPLGP, LLC, the general partner of Blue Pearl, Ltd., presented the winning ticket at Lottery headquarters in Austin. The ticket was purchased with the Cash Value Option, making the prize worth \$22,033,683, before taxes.

"This jackpot was the second largest being offered in the United States at the time," said Reagan Greer, Executive Director of the Texas Lottery Commission. "It was also one of the biggest we'd had for *Lotto Texas* in a while, so we are very excited about having our winner claim this prize."

Handi Stop #16, located at 10801 South Post Oak Boulevard, in Houston sold the winning ticket. The retailer is eligible to receive a 1 percent bonus of \$350,000 for selling the jackpot-winning ticket.

The numbers that matched all six-of-six for the jackpot were chosen by the player: 42 - 30 - 10 - 41 - 31 - 20.

The winner requested minimum publicity.

Saturday's *Lotto Texas* jackpot is worth an estimated \$13 million.

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