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MEDIA CONTACT: Media Relations, 512-344-5131
mediarelations@lottery.state.tx.us



SUPPORTING TEXAS EDUCATION
AND VETERANS

HOUSTON AREA DOGS & CAT FEATURED ON TEXAS LOTTERY SCRATCH TICKET

New \$2 scratch ticket now available at Texas Lottery retailers

(AUSTIN) – Two Houston area dogs and one cat are among the six dogs and six cats featured on the new Texas Lottery® scratch ticket game, [Cats vs. Dogs](#). The \$2 scratch ticket is now available at Texas Lottery retailers and offers more than \$9.1 million in total prizes and six top prizes of \$30,000.

Finny, a rescued cocker spaniel owned by Stephanie Collins of Sugar Land; Noel, a rescued Dachshund and Chihuahua mix owned by Tammy Taylor of Sugar Land and Teddy, a rescued black cat owned by Cindy Jones of Houston, and the nine other cats and dogs were the top vote getters in the Texas Lottery’s Facebook photo contest in November 2015.

“More than 1,700 dogs and cats were entered into the photo contest and nearly 25,000 votes were cast,” said Gary Grief, executive director of the Texas Lottery. “With the tremendous response to our photo contest, we expect this game to be a hit with our players.”

“There were so many cute pets entered in the contest, and I felt so fortunate that voters chose Finny to be featured on one of the Texas Lottery’s Cats vs. Dogs scratch tickets,” said Collins, Finny’s owner and president and founder of [Gulf Coast Cocker Spaniel Rescue](#) based in Houston. “Finny is the epitome of a rescue animal. Grateful to be loved and to never have to worry about being comfortable or fed again, he brings so much happiness to our hearts and our home.”

Cats vs. Dogs Scratch Ticket Contest Winners

Dog Winners	Cat Winners
Stella from Ovilla, owner Paige Sills	Markus from Arlington, owner Peggy Wrostek
Noel from Sugar Land, owner Tammy Taylor	Fangsy from Dallas, owner Jennifer Frye
Della from College Station, owner Madison Wenske	Allie from Dallas, owner Jeff Henderson
Murray from Victoria, owner Cindy Saunders	Teddy from Houston, owner Cindy Jones
Finny from Sugar Land, owner Stephanie Collins	Bubba from Pharr, owner Ariana Hinojosa
Booker Tee from San Angelo, owner Walker Woolman	Vladimir from Odessa, owner Amaris Sherman

“It is amazing to think that just one year ago Noel was on death row at a high-kill animal control facility and now she will be featured on scratch tickets that everyone in the state will see and enjoy. We hope her story will create awareness that there are many wonderful pets out there in need of homes,” said Taylor. “The [Dachshund Lovers of Texas](#) family is very proud of Noel! We are ecstatic to say the least!”

(more)

Jones said she entered Teddy into the contest because “black cats have a history of not getting adopted as often as other cats. I wanted to show what a beautiful kitten Teddy is as well as being full of personality.”

Jones describes Teddy as a very vocal cat.

“He cannot come in a room or leave a room without meowing and making funny noises. He’s even vocal when he’s running and jumping,” she said.

Jones adds, “Teddy loves to run through the family room bouncing from chair to chair to couch, loves to jump through his tunnel, loves his feather toy and catnip toys, and also loves to pester our older cat, Mollie.”

About the Texas Lottery

Beginning with the first ticket sold in 1992, the Texas Lottery has generated \$24 billion in revenue for the state and distributed \$47 billion in prizes to lottery players. Since 1997, the Texas Lottery has contributed \$19 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. Since the first veterans’ themed scratch ticket game was launched in 2009, the Texas Lottery has contributed more than \$52 million for programs supporting Texas veterans.

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[®], Texas Triple Chance[™] and scratch ticket games. For more information visit us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube or at www.txlottery.org.

Editors/News Directors, note: Images of the scratch tickets featuring Noel, Finny and Teddy and the nine other dogs and cats featured on the Cats vs. Dogs scratch ticket game are attached in JPEG format.

To schedule an interview with Finny or Teddy’s owners, please contact the Texas Lottery’s Media Relations Division at 512-344-5131 or at mediarelations@lottery.state.tx.us

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