



TEXAS LOTTERY REMINDS PLAYERS TO GIFT RESPONSIBLY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

(AUSTIN) – With the holiday gift-giving season underway, the Texas Lottery is reminding consumers that lottery tickets should not be given to children. For the 12th year, the Texas Lottery is partnering with the National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG) and McGill University’s International Centre for Youth Gambling Problems and High-Risk Behaviors to raise awareness of the risks of underage lottery play by reminding lottery consumers to “Gift Responsibly. Lottery Tickets Aren’t Child’s Play.” In Texas, players must be at least 18 years of age to purchase lottery tickets and retailers are not authorized to redeem tickets for anyone under the age of 18.

“While lottery products are a popular gift during the holiday season and throughout the year, they are not an appropriate gift for children,” said Gary Grief, executive director of the Texas Lottery. “We are proud to once again join organizations around the world supporting NCPG and McGill University’s 2020 responsible gambling campaign to encourage adults to gift responsibly this holiday season.”

Throughout the holiday season, the “Gift Responsibly. Lottery Tickets Aren’t Child’s Play” message will be featured on the Texas Lottery’s social media accounts, [website](#), retailer newsletter and in-store electronic messaging. Educational messages regarding the risks of underage gambling will be sent to retailers and employees throughout December.

Certified for its Responsible Gambling program by NCPG and the World Lottery Association, the Texas Lottery emphasizes responsible gambling in its marketing efforts and promotional materials throughout the year, all of which encourage responsible play and remind consumers that you must be 18 or older to purchase a lottery ticket. More than 20,000 lottery retailers across the state also are trained that lottery tickets should not be sold to or prizes redeemed by anyone under the age of 18. Information on how individuals with gambling problems can find help is available on Texas Lottery’s games, website, social media and advertising.

(more)

About the Texas Lottery

Beginning with the first ticket sold in 1992, the Texas Lottery has generated \$31 billion in revenue for the state and distributed \$66 billion in prizes to lottery players. Since 1997, the Texas Lottery has contributed \$25.9 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 \$145 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® and scratch ticket games. For more information visit us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube or at www.txlottery.org. PLAY RESPONSIBLY.

Editors/News Directors, note: The "Gift Responsibly. Lottery Tickets Aren't Child's Play" campaign graphic is attached in JPEG format.

###