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VETERANS CASH SCRATCH TICKET GAME SUPPORTS TEXAS VETERANS

Since 2009, the Texas Lottery has contributed more than \$167 million to Texas veterans

(AUSTIN) – As the nation honors the service of military veterans and the sacrifices of their families this Veterans Day, Texas Lottery® players can support these American heroes when they purchase the new Veterans Cash scratch ticket game. Proceeds from the \$2 game benefit the Texas Veterans Commission's Fund for Veterans' Assistance (FVA). Interested players can use the Scratch Ticket and Retailer Locator on the Texas Lottery website or on the Texas Lottery App to find the game in their area.

"For the last 12 years, the Texas Lottery has been honored to generate much-needed revenue – more than \$167 million to-date – for the Fund for Veterans' Assistance, which now benefits more than 1.7 million veterans in the State of Texas," said Gary Grief, executive director of the Texas Lottery. "Every year, the Texas Lottery produces a number of scratch ticket games that exclusively benefit Texas veterans, including Veterans Cash. We look forward to providing the FVA with the proceeds from this year's games."

This year's edition of Veterans Cash features more than \$7.9 million in total cash prizes throughout the game, including five \$30,000 top prizes. The overall odds of winning are one in 4.40 for any prize, including break-even prizes.

During the 81st Legislative Session, Rep. Chris Turner and former Sen. Leticia Van de Putte authored legislation requiring the Texas Lottery to create scratch ticket games to benefit the FVA. The bill was passed by the legislature and signed into law by then-Gov. Rick Perry on June 19, 2009.

The Texas Lottery debuted Veterans Cash, the first scratch ticket game designed to support Texas veterans, on Nov. 9, 2009. In total, 55 scratch ticket games have launched, with the proceeds from those tickets supporting the FVA – including the latest version of Veterans Cash, which was released on Oct. 18. During the 2021 fiscal year alone, the Texas Lottery Commission transferred \$23.4 million to the FVA.

"We are excited for this Veterans Cash ticket release in honor of Veterans Day and our mission of serving veterans and their families in Texas," says Thomas Palladino, executive director of the Texas Veterans Commission. "By sharing proceeds from Veterans Cash tickets and others, the TVC has served over 350,000 veterans, surviving spouses and dependents."

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The FVA, which has been administered by the TVC since 2007, makes grants available to eligible charitable organizations, local government agencies and Veterans Service Organizations that provide direct services to Texas veterans and their families. With 1.7 million veterans calling Texas home, these programs provide financial assistance, transportation services, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder counseling and housing assistance.

Since 2009 through the 2020-2021 grant cycle, the TVC has awarded \$168 million in FVA grant funds to hundreds of organizations that have assisted over 350,000 veterans across the state. During the last grant cycle, TVC awarded \$33.4 million to 147 organizations that served an estimated 30,000 veterans.

About the Texas Lottery

Beginning with the first ticket sold in 1992, the Texas Lottery has generated \$33.7 billion in revenue for the state and distributed \$71 billion in prizes to lottery players. Since 1997, the Texas Lottery has contributed \$27.8 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 \$167 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 <u>texaslottery.com</u>. PLAY RESPONSIBLY.

Editors/News Directors, note: An image of the Veterans Cash scratch ticket is attached in JPEG format.

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