



## Latin Lotto Scam

# Truth Report

During the last few years, victims have lost more than \$3 million in a scam run primarily by Central and South American con artists using bogus or altered Texas Lottery tickets.

Beware if these con artists approach you in the parking lot of a mall or grocery store and offer to sell you a "winning" lottery ticket. Don't believe them when they tell you they need cash to claim a lottery prize. You never have to pay money to claim a lottery prize.

The con artists may also try to get you to take them to your bank to get your money. Don't let them into your car and don't get in a car with them. Get away from them as quickly as possible.

It doesn't matter how sad their story is—you'll be sadder if they steal your money, which could be better used by you and your family. And don't forget, no matter how much they tell you it's a good deal, if the story sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Call the police immediately. Let them know what happened to you and try to give them a description of the people who approached you. You'll be doing yourself and everyone else a favor.

Turn this card over to see the different lines the con artists use—and the truth you can use to protect yourself. You can outsmart them by knowing the truth about how to play and win the 'Games of Texas.'

## The Scam

"This is a winning Lottery ticket, but I need money to claim it. If you help me with the upfront money, I'll share the jackpot with you."

"I can't cash in my winning Lottery ticket because I'm not a U.S. citizen."

"Let's call the Lottery. They'll tell us this is a winning ticket."

"We need to hurry. I need to return to my family. It's an emergency."

## The Truth

This is your first clue that this is a scam. The Texas Lottery does not require any money be paid upfront in order for a prize to be claimed. Get away from this person as quickly as possible and call the police.

You do not have to be a U.S. citizen to claim a lottery prize.

The Texas Lottery never confirms over the phone that a ticket is a winner. The person on the phone is part of the scam.

The thieves are trying to rush you so you won't have time to call a family member or a friend for advice or help.