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SUPPORTING TEXAS EDUCATION  
AND VETERANS

**\*\*\*JACKPOT ALERT\*\*\***

**MORE THAN \$1 BILLION UP FOR GRABS**

**Mega Millions® and Powerball® exceed \$400 million simultaneously for the first time**

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(AUSTIN) – Jackpot fever is popping up all over Texas this week with more than \$1 billion on the line as the Mega Millions® and Powerball® jackpots swell. Tonight's Mega Millions jackpot has been increased to an estimated \$450 million and Saturday's Powerball jackpot is currently set at an estimated \$570 million, marking the first time in U.S. lottery history that both games have advertised jackpots above \$400 million simultaneously.

"This is an extraordinarily unique time in U.S. Lottery history, as the Mega Millions and Powerball jackpots are now inside the top 10 largest jackpots in each game's respective history," said Gary Grief, executive director of the Texas Lottery. "The excitement surrounding both jackpots have led to staggering sales figures, which ultimately helps us meet our mission to provide funding for public education and Texas veterans."

Tonight's Mega Millions jackpot started as a \$40 million prize on Oct. 17, 2017 and is the result of 23 draws without a jackpot winner. The current jackpot with a cash value of \$281.2 million sits fourth all-time in game history and as the 11<sup>th</sup>-largest in U.S. lottery jackpot history. Texas has had 12 Mega Millions jackpot prize winners since it joined the game in 2003. Its most recent winner came in October 2016 when It Will Buy Me a Boat Revocable Trust Dated November 16, 2016, Garon R. Horton, Trustee, of Rockwall, claimed a \$49 million prize. In 2017, 12 Texas players claimed second-tier Mega Millions prizes of \$1 million or more.

Saturday's Powerball jackpot with a cash value of \$358.5 million is currently the fifth-largest Powerball jackpot on record and the seventh-largest in U.S. lottery history. The Powerball jackpot started as a \$40 million prize on Oct. 28, 2017, and is the result of 20 draws without a jackpot winner. The largest Powerball jackpot was an advertised \$1.586 billion for the drawing held on Jan. 13, 2016, which stands as the world record. Texas has had two Powerball jackpot winners, including its most recent in February 2015 when TL Management Trust, Andrew Weber, Trustee of Austin, claimed a share of the \$564.1 million jackpot prize with two other winners.

*(more)*

Last year, 20 Texas players claimed second-tier Powerball prizes of \$1 million or more.

Mega Millions is played by choosing five numbers from a field of 70 and one Mega Ball number from the second field of 25 numbers. To win the Mega Millions jackpot, players must match all six numbers drawn including the Mega Ball. Players matching fewer numbers may not win the jackpot, but still walk away winners. Mega Millions offers a \$40 Million starting jackpot and a second-tier (Match 5+0) prize of \$1 million. By choosing the Megaplier® for \$1 more per play, players can multiply their non-jackpot winnings by two, three, four or five times, winning as much as \$5 million. Drawings are broadcast each Tuesday and Friday at 10:12 p.m. CT.

Powerball jackpots start at \$40 million and roll until the jackpot is won. Players win the jackpot by matching five numbers from a field of 69 numbers and one Powerball number from a field of 26 numbers. Drawings occur each Wednesday and Saturday at 10:12 p.m. CT.

#### About the Texas Lottery

Beginning with the first ticket sold in 1992, the Texas Lottery has generated \$27 billion in revenue for the state and distributed \$50 billion in prizes to lottery players. Since 1997, the Texas Lottery has contributed \$21 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 \$88 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](http://www.txlottery.org). PLAY RESPONSIBLY.

**Editors/News Directors, note:** Images of the Powerball logo and Mega Millions logo are attached in JPEG format. A list of the 2017 top selling Texas Lottery retailers is attached.

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