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LOTTERY NUMBERS TRENDING UP

May 10, 2016

LITTTLE ROCK— Arkansas Scholarship Lottery officials have released April 2016 sales figures, which show Lottery numbers continue to trend upward. In April, the Lottery was up more than \$2.4 million in instant ticket sales versus April 2015 and up more than \$1.2 million in draw game sales versus last year – or, up \$3,649,831 in overall sales versus April 2015. The increased sales translates to nearly \$26 million paid to players in April and more than \$2.1 million paid in commissions to retailers.

"This past month continues the trend of our ticket sales increasing in 18 of the last 20 months," Lottery Director Bishop Woosley said today. "This means more prizes for our players, more commissions for our retailers, and, most importantly, more scholarship money for college-bound Arkansas students."

The month's total proceeds – the amount used to calculate the number of college scholarships awarded – were \$7,392,837, more than \$450,000 above budget, Woosley noted. Total proceeds for the year thus far are \$67,528,725 -- nearly \$5 million above budget thus far this fiscal year. "To date, we have transferred \$8,766,458 more in proceeds this fiscal year than we did last fiscal year during the same period," he said.

About the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery

Since Lottery sales started in Arkansas in 2009, the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery has provided more than \$573 million for in-state college scholarships to Arkansas students, while players have won nearly \$2 billion in prizes -- and Lottery retailers have earned more than \$162 million in commissions. More than 92 cents of every dollar of Lottery revenue goes to prizes, scholarships and retailer commissions in the state.

Please follow the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>. Visit <u>www.myarkansaslottery.com</u> for more information on scholarships, winners, games, odds, promotions, and to join the free *Play it Again* Rewards Club. To hear winning numbers, call the Winning Numbers Hotline at 501-682-IWON (4966). To get help with problem gambling, contact the National Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-522-4700.

