



**For Immediate Release
Little Rock, Arkansas
Arkansas Scholarship Lottery
December 11, 2013**

**Mega Millions® Jackpot Soars to Estimated \$400 Million
Players Nationwide Lining Up for a Piece of the Action**

Mega Millions® players from coast to coast are lining up for the hottest jackpot of the holiday season. With no jackpot winner in Tuesday's drawing, the jackpot for Dec. 13, 2013, drawing is an estimated \$400 million. This is the second-largest jackpot in Mega Millions® history, and the fifth-largest ever in North America.

If one ticket matches all six numbers for the \$400 million mega-jackpot, the winner will have the choice of receiving the full jackpot in 30 annual payments, or a cash option of approximately \$216.4 million before taxes.

"The strong sales of Mega Millions® tickets mean more than just an exciting jackpot," said Bishop Woosley, Director of the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery. "They mean greater profits to benefit each state in which Mega Millions® is played."

Since the game started in Arkansas, several large prizes have been awarded, including three \$1,000,000 prizes, one \$500,000 prize, 13 \$250,000 prizes, two \$125,000 prizes and 88 prizes ranging from \$10,000 - \$40,000.

Three tickets sold in Arkansas won prizes on Tuesday's drawing. Cantrell Phillips 66 in Little Rock sold a ticket worth \$1,000, as did EZ Mart 360 in Stuttgart. Another lucky player purchased a \$1,002 winning ticket at AJ's in Paragould. 21 prizes of \$500 or more have been won in Arkansas since October 22, when Mega Millions® saw changes that included larger jackpots, faster growing jackpots, a million-dollar second prize, and better odds of winning any prize, all for the same \$1 ticket price as before.

This jackpot has been growing since Oct. 1, when Mega Millions® had its most recent jackpot winner. The jackpot has now rolled 20 times without a winner.

The odds of winning the jackpot are approximately one in 259 million. The odds of winning any of the Mega Millions® prizes are approximately 1 in 15. Mega Millions® holds the record for the largest jackpot ever, at \$656 million. That jackpot on March 30, 2012, was split by three winning tickets in Illinois, Kansas and Maryland.

Each participating state's legislature determines how its Mega Millions® profits are allocated. In many states, profits are earmarked for education. The beneficiaries in other states include

parks, natural resources, property tax relief, programs to help the elderly and several other important causes.

Mega Millions® drawings are held Tuesday and Friday evenings at 10:00 p.m. Central Time. Profits from every Mega Millions® ticket sold remain in the state in which the ticket was sold.

All net proceeds of the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery go to fund college scholarships for Arkansas students at in-state two- or four-year institutions of higher learning.