



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-- Contact Donna Bragg at 479-459-2132 for more information.

MEGA MILLIONS JACKPOT WINNER STILL ANONYMOUS Lottery encourages ticket holder to call headquarters

April 3, 2017

LITTLE ROCK – The suspense continues today for the winner of last Friday’s \$177 Mega Millions jackpot to reveal who he or she is. The lucky winner has 180 days to claim the prize, which is the largest jackpot ticket ever sold in Arkansas. Lottery Director Bishop Woosley is encouraging the winner to call the lottery headquarters prior to coming to the Claims Center in Little Rock to collect the prize money.

“This is a life-changing event for the winner,” Woosley said. “We would like to make this process as easy as possible for the lucky winner.”

The person holding the winning ticket actually purchased three Mega Millions quick picks at the All Stop Valero at 408 East 22nd Street in Stuttgart last Thursday. Two out of the three tickets were winners. The ticket worth \$177 million (with a cash value of about \$107 million before taxes) matched all six numbers drawn – 17, 24, 27, 32 and 58, plus the Mega Ball number 10. A second ticket won \$1, but since the player chose the Megaplier option, he or she won \$3 on that ticket, too!

This a monumental win for the ticket holder, but Arkansas will also benefit when the winner comes forward. This win will equate to about \$7 million in state income taxes, a commission of \$50,000 for the retailer that sold the ticket, and it will help promote the Lottery’s mission of providing scholarships for Arkansas students.

About the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery

Since its inception in 2009, the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery has provided nearly \$700 million for in-state college scholarships to Arkansas students, nearly \$2 billion in prizes to players, and more than \$182 million in commissions to Lottery retailers. More than 92 cents of every dollar of Lottery revenue goes to prizes, scholarships, retailer commissions and other expenses in Arkansas.

To date, the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery has helped provide funding for more than 235,000 scholarships to Arkansas students. To apply for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship, visit scholarships.ADHE.edu before the June 1 deadline.

About Arkansas Scholarship Lottery Winners

Based on data from 2016, the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery produces one prize winner every 1.4 seconds, more than 40 winners every minute, more than 2,500 per hour, 64,000 per day and nearly two million winners every month. The luckiest county in the state, with more than four million prize winners in 2016, is naturally the most populous: Pulaski County. But even the “least luckiest,” Montgomery County, saw more than 22,000 prize winners last year.

Facts About Mega Millions

Mega Millions is a multi-state jackpot game. Drawings are held Tuesday and Friday at 10 p.m. Five balls are drawn from a set of balls numbered 1 through 75; the Mega ball is drawn from a set of balls numbered 1 through 15. If all your numbers match those that are drawn, you win the jackpot, which starts at \$15 million. For an additional dollar, you can add the Megaplier option to multiply non-jackpot winnings by 2, 3, 4 or 5 times. The Megaplier number is randomly selected before each drawing.

Follow the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#). Visit [MyArkansasLottery.com](#) 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.

###