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**NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Arkansas Lottery On Track For Record Fiscal Year *More than \$7.8 Million Raised for Scholarships in January***

Feb. 19, 2019

LITTLE ROCK – The Arkansas Scholarship Lottery (ASL) ended January with net proceeds to scholarships exceeding \$7.8 million, more than \$1.1 million ahead of their projected budget. That puts year to date net proceeds more than \$7.7 million ahead of budget. Year to date sales at the end of January were more than \$12.3 million better than prior year to date.

Strong instant ticket sales (commonly called scratch-off tickets) are driving recent performance increases. The ASL reported a record-breaking December in instant ticket sales last month, at more than \$38.1 million. Here are a few highlights for January:

- Instant ticket sales were \$33,513,216, the 3rd largest January instant ticket sales month since the Lottery's inception.
- Total sales for January 2019 were \$40,522,066, the 4th largest January sales month since inception.
- Year to date sales are currently \$12,285,489 higher than the same time last year.

In addition, the ASL reports this January that it awarded its 3<sup>rd</sup> largest amount of prizes for a January since inception. January 2019 prizes for instant and draw games (jackpot games) totaled more than \$27.6 million. January 2019 commissions paid to retailers totaled more than \$2.2 million.

ASL Director Bishop Woosley on Friday presented a \$20,000 commission check to the Super Stop on East Harding Avenue in Pine Bluff for selling a \$2 million winning Mega Millions® ticket to a Dumas woman in January. Also in January, a grocery store worker from Little Rock claimed the first of four \$1 million top prizes playing the \$20 Ultimate Millions scratch-off ticket.

“We are now up to 67 lottery-made millionaires in Arkansas,” Woosley said. “But the best part of celebrating these big wins is knowing that we are on track to provide more scholarships for students if we can maintain our current sales momentum.”

The lottery finished fiscal year 2018 on June 30 with its best sales and revenue ever. Sales reached \$499,704,976, and revenue was \$500,490,212.

To read the most recent Monthly Disclosure Report presented to the Arkansas Legislative Council Lottery Oversight Subcommittee, go to Reports on the About Us page at [www.MyArkansasLottery.com](http://www.MyArkansasLottery.com).

### **About the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery**

Since 2009, the Lottery has provided more than \$781 million to help fund more than 302,000 college scholarships, more than \$2.8 billion in prizes to players, more than \$240 million in retailer commissions and more than \$122 million in state and federal tax revenue. More than 92 cents of every dollar of Lottery revenue goes to prizes, scholarships, retailer commissions, and other expenses.

Follow the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#). Visit [MyArkansasLottery.com](http://MyArkansasLottery.com) for more information on scholarships, winners, games, odds, promotions – and to join The Club for free. 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.

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