

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-- Contact Stephen Koch at 501-683-2055 for more information

LOTTERY EXCEEDS FISCAL YEAR PROJECTIONS

July 10, 2017

LITTLE ROCK— The numbers are in – the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery beat projections for June, and has come in well over budget for its fiscal year scholarship reserve, according to a new report released to the Arkansas Legislature's Lottery Oversight Committee.

What does this mean for Arkansas? More money for lottery-funded scholarships. While budgeting for \$80.9 million, the lottery actually made \$85,277,000 in total proceeds for fiscal year 2016-2017, a difference of more than \$4.3 million. In fact, just the month of June exceeded projections for proceeds by more than \$900,000. (See the entire report at the lottery's website under "Reports" or click HERE.)

"There's always room for improvement, but we're obviously pleased with these numbers," Arkansas Scholarship Lottery Director Bishop Woosley said. "Keeping it fun for our players while maximizing the revenue for Arkansas college scholarships is our focus."

"These are great numbers. Simply put, this report is good news for any Arkansas student hoping to be awarded a lottery-funded scholarship," said Larry Walther, director of the Department of Finance and Administration, which has overseen the lottery since 2015.

About the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery

Since Lottery sales started in 2009, the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery has provided nearly \$2.3 billion in prizes to players, and more than \$195 million in commissions to Lottery retailers. The Lottery has provided nearly \$700 million for more than 235,000 scholarships in the state since it began. More than 92 cents of every dollar of Lottery revenue goes to prizes, scholarships, retailer commissions, and other expenses in Arkansas.

Follow the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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.