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TEXAS VETERANS SUPPORTED BY NEW TEXAS LOTTERY[®] SCRATCH TICKET GAME

Since 2009, the Texas Lottery has contributed more than \$223 million to Texas veterans

AUSTIN – The Texas Lottery is offering its players a meaningful way to support Texas military veterans this Veterans Day. The annual \$2 patriotic-themed <u>Veterans Cash</u> scratch ticket game is now available and is designed to generate proceeds for the Texas Veterans Commission's Fund for Veterans' Assistance (FVA), while offering players a chance to win a \$30,000 top prize. Interested players can use the <u>Scratch</u> <u>Ticket and Retailer Locator</u> on the Texas Lottery[®] website or on the <u>Texas Lottery App</u> to find the game in their area.

"Over the years, the Texas Lottery has taken great pride in generating revenue for the Fund for Veteran's Assistance," said Gary Grief, executive director of the Texas Lottery. "Since 2009, we have transferred more than \$223 million to the Texas Veterans Commission to support the FVA, including a record-breaking \$29.7 million during the 2023 fiscal year. Our mission is to create innovative scratch ticket games that captivate our players and provide important support for the FVA."

The 2023 edition of Veterans Cash, which launched on Oct. 16, features more than \$7.8 million in total cash prizes throughout the game, including five \$30,000 top prizes. The overall odds of winning are one in 4.40 for any prize, including break-even prizes.

"It is our duty to provide services and benefits to veterans who have sacrificed and served our country, and the funds made available because of the Texas Lottery's Veterans Cash ticket are vital to fulfilling that mission," said Texas Veterans Commission Executive Director Tom Palladino. "The grant funding awarded changes the lives of Texas veterans—to all those that buy the Veterans Cash ticket, you are contributing to keeping Texas the best state for veterans."

During the 81st Legislative Session, Rep. Chris Turner and former Sen. Leticia Van de Putte authored legislation requiring the Texas Lottery to create scratch ticket games to benefit the FVA. The bill was passed by the legislature and signed into law by then-Gov. Rick Perry on June 19, 2009.

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The Texas Lottery debuted Veterans Cash, the first scratch ticket game designed to support Texas veterans, on Nov. 9, 2009. In total, 69 scratch ticket games have launched, with the proceeds from those tickets supporting the FVA – including the latest version of Veterans Cash.

The FVA, which has been administered by the TVC since 2007, makes grants available to eligible charitable organizations, local government agencies and Veterans Service Organizations that provide direct services to Texas veterans and their families. With more than 1.5 million veterans calling Texas home, these programs provide employment financial assistance, transportation services, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder counseling and housing assistance.

Since 2009 through the current 2023-2024 grant cycle, the TVC has awarded over \$270 million in FVA grant funds to hundreds of organizations that have assisted over 400,000 veterans across the state. During the last grant cycle, TVC awarded grants totaling more than \$36 million to 135 organizations that served an estimated 81,700 veterans and their families.

About the Texas Lottery

Beginning with the first ticket sold in 1992, the Texas Lottery has generated \$37.9 billion in revenue for the state and distributed \$83 billion in prizes to lottery players. Since 1997, the Texas Lottery has contributed \$31.9 billion to the Foundation School Fund, which supports public education in Texas. As authorized by the Texas Legislature, certain Texas Lottery revenues benefit state programs including the Fund for Veterans' Assistance. Since the first veterans' themed scratch ticket game was launched in 2009, the Texas Lottery has contributed more than \$223 million for programs supporting Texas veterans.

The Texas Lottery provides several entertaining games for lottery players including Powerball[®], Mega Millions[®], Lotto Texas[®], All or Nothing[™], Texas Two Step[®], Pick 3[™], Daily 4[™], Cash Five[®] and scratch ticket games. For more information visit us on Facebook, X, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube or at texaslottery.com. PLAY RESPONSIBLY.

<u>Editors/News Directors, note:</u> A high-res image of the Veterans Cash scratch ticket game can be downloaded <u>here</u>. (Right-click on the image for saving options.)

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