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**NEW \$30 INSTANT TICKET MAKES THREE
ILLINOIS RESIDENTS MILLIONAIRES**

Three \$3,000,000 prizes remain

CHICAGO – October 02, 2009 – The Illinois Lottery launched a new \$30 instant ticket and in one week three winners came forward to claim their prize of \$1,000,000 each. The \$3,000,000 Cash Spectacular ticket is the first \$30 ticket to be sold by the Illinois lottery and boasts the best odds of all instant tickets: 1 in 2.46.

In all, the \$3,000,000 Cash Spectacular will make 20 people millionaires with three \$3,000,000 prizes and 17 \$1,000,000 prizes. The first three \$1,000,000 prizes were won by:

- Fred Alward of Paris, Ill.
- Debra Metoyer of Bolingbrook, Ill.
- Michael Reynolds of Evergreen Park, Ill.

Fred Alward plays the Lottery regularly, but he didn't believe that people actually won. That changed when he scratched off three pineapples on the \$3,000,000 Cash Spectacular to reveal he had won \$1,000,000.

"I couldn't believe it," said the 63-year-old small business owner. "I shook quite a bit and I thought it wasn't a real ticket."

Michael Reynolds had a chance to play the \$3,000,000 Cash Spectacular through an office pool, but he didn't want to join. After filling his car up with gas at the Circle K in Oak Lawn, he noticed tickets for the new game in the machine and decided to try his luck on his own.

"My wife first said to me, 'You spent \$30 on a ticket?'" said Reynolds. "And I thought, 'I know this is too much,' but I had this weird feeling. When you get that feeling, I always say you should believe in it."

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“We’re excited to offer the first \$30 ticket and to have three new millionaires win so quickly,” said Jodie Winnett, acting superintendent for the Illinois Lottery. “We’re anxiously awaiting someone to win the top prize of \$3,000,000 and the rest of the \$1,000,000 prizes.”

The \$3,000,000 Cash Spectacular will award \$84,000,000 in cash prizes all together, with three \$3,000,000 and 17 \$1,000,000 prizes, as well as many \$500 prizes. The approximate overall odds of winning (including break-even prizes) are 1 in 2.46. The odds of winning \$1,000,000 or more are 1 in 180,000. The \$1,000,000 and \$3,000,000 prizes will be annuitized over a 25 year period.

About the Illinois Lottery

Founded in 1974, the Illinois Lottery is a state agency with annual sales over \$2 billion. Since its inception, the Lottery has contributed more than \$14 billion to the state Common School Fund to assist K-12 public schools. Players must be at least 18 years old. For more information on the Illinois Lottery please visit our Web site at www.illinoislottery.com.

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