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## **Joliet Couple Win \$16.5 Million Lotto Prize**

**CHICAGO – December 30, 2009** – The lucky ticket holders of the Illinois Lottery’s December 5, 2009, Lotto drawing knew that one day their participation would pay off. After playing the Lottery together for nearly four years, the Joliet couple’s prediction finally came true. They are delighted with their newfound \$16.5 million fortune. The ticket was purchased at a Seven-Eleven® store on Essington Road in Joliet, Ill.

The couple has retained Jeffrey Hucek, an Oak Brook attorney, as their tax advisor and spokesperson. “The winners are extremely excited over their good fortune and are dedicated to managing the prize money responsibly,” Mr. Hucek said.

The winners have elected to receive the prize money as a lump sum. According to Mr. Hucek, “the winners have claimed the prize through the partnership they have used to play the Lottery over the years. They have directed that the prize money be paid to trusts established for privacy and assistance with investment and management.”

In their late thirties and early forties, the couple has no immediate plans for their prize money. The Lotto prize will definitely make some decisions easier in future years, however.

They are currently spending a quiet holiday with their family where it is sure to be a very joyous season for the winners.

### **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](http://www.illinoislottery.com).

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