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March marks record month for sales

Increases seen in draw games, instant tickets, total sales

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LITTLE ROCK – The Arkansas Scholarship Lottery is reporting the best-ever March for prizes, ticket sales, total revenue, and retailer commissions in its history. Total sales were up more than \$10 million (23 percent) over the same period last year, driven largely by instant ticket sales and the national draw games Powerball[®] and Mega Millions.[®]

Year to date, the Lottery is up 13.5 percent, or nearly \$45 million, in total sales versus the same period last year – and is \$6.5 million (including unclaimed prizes) over budget for proceeds this fiscal year.

March was additionally the highest Cash 4 sales month ever, the highest Fast Play sales month ever, and the highest Cash 3 sales month since March 2010. In total, March was the second-highest sales month ever for the lottery since it launched in 2009.

The full report was released to the Lottery Oversight Committee today, and it, and previous reports, are available to the public at the Lottery website: <u>MyArkansasLottery.com/about/reports</u>

"These are incredible numbers, and something that everyone here works hard at every day – so, the credit goes to lottery employees, to our nearly 2,000 retailers statewide, and to our players," Arkansas Scholarship Lottery Director Bishop Woosley said. "Now, to date, the Arkansas lottery has helped raise \$752 million for well over a quarter of a million in-state scholarships, and we're proud of those numbers, too. In fact, with the scholarship deadline approaching in June, we encourage all interested Arkansas students to apply at Scholarships.ADHE.edu."

About the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery

More than 92 cents of every dollar of Lottery revenue goes to prizes, scholarships, retailer commissions, and other expenses in Arkansas. Since Lottery sales started in 2009, the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery has provided more than \$752 million for in-state college scholarships to Arkansas students, \$2.5 billion+ in prizes to players, and more than \$217 million in commissions to Lottery retailers.

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