



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**“Hilton Washington 27” Wins \$10,000
and Gives Back to the Community**
First-Time Office Pool Winners to Help Beautify FDR Memorial

Washington, D.C. – When Bridgette Barksdale was on her way to work at the Hilton Washington, she saw that the [POWERBALL](#)® jackpot was \$138 million and decided to ask a few of her coworkers if they wanted to play. Well, 26 people later, the first-time office pool won \$10,000 by correctly matching four white balls and the red PowerBall for the August 5 drawing.

“I saw that we had matched four numbers, but I didn’t know how much we had won,” Barksdale recalled happily. “It was one in the morning, and I had the home phone number for one of my coworkers, Sharon Ford, so I called her.” Barksdale recounted that Ford didn’t believe her at first. Then, Barksdale checked the winning numbers on the Internet and realized that the group had won \$10,000. At 6 a.m., Barksdale sent an e-mail to her 26 coworkers about their win. “My phone was ringing all morning. They thought that I was kidding. No one believed me.”

No longer in disbelief, many members of the Hilton Washington 27 have decided to donate their time and prize money to [Tourism Cares](#), a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving natural, cultural, and historic sites around the world. On September 11, Tourism Cares Volunteer Day, they will be cleaning-up and beautifying the FDR Memorial on the National Mall.

At the Hilton Washington, the group was congratulated by Jeffrey “Jay” Young, executive director of the [D.C. Lottery and Charitable Games Control Board](#), Wilson Reynolds, director of constituent services for Ward 1 Councilmember Jim Graham, and Steve Cowan, general manager of Hilton Washington.

“A journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step, and this is the first step for the Hilton Washington 27. They will always remember the first time they pooled their money together and won \$10,000 with POWERBALL,” Young said. “This is a perfect example of the awesome power of participation. Keep winning and keep playing.”

Cowan gave kudos to the staff for working together in tight quarters, while the hotel is undergoing a major renovation. Four departments: catering, events, sales, and finance are now housed on the second floor and it has strengthened the bond between employees. “We are very, very proud of you,” Cowan said about the hotel’s teamwork and their volunteer efforts, including Tourism Cares, after asking the group why didn’t they include him in the pool?

The Hilton Washington 27 bought their winning ticket at Martin’s Wines & Spirits, 1919 Florida Avenue, N.W.

More information about D.C. Lottery winners, games, and retailers is available at [dclottery.com](#) and [Facebook](#). *Lots of People Win* with the D.C. Lottery and Charitable Games Control Board.

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D.C. LOTTERY – LOTS OF PEOPLE WIN!