



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 30, 2016

CONTACT: Agnes Moss
202-645-8075

DC Lottery Player Protection Alert: Scam Lottery-Related Calls

Washington, DC – The DC Lottery encourages the public to beware of scam phone calls suggesting lottery-related wins.

“If someone calls saying ‘You’re a winner,’ and you’ve never played—you haven’t won,” says DC Lottery Interim Executive Director Tracey Cohen who further cautions players to exercise discernment if such calls are received. “If it’s too good to be true, it usually is. It’s okay to simply hang up.”

DC Lottery officials confirm that requiring the forward of monetary payment as a prerequisite for claiming a prize is not the practice of any legitimate lottery agency. While this predatory practice is not new, the DC Lottery has experienced a recent surge in calls from expectant winners from as far away as Texas and urges the public to be alert.

“Anyone who receives calls from persons claiming to represent a lottery-related agency with instructions to forward money—sometimes to an out-of-country account—as a requirement for claiming a large prize, should hang up immediately,” Cohen added. “Do not answer any questions or give them any information.”

The public should report any suspicious activities to the [Federal Trade Commission](#), the DC Metropolitan Police Department's [Financial Crimes and Fraud Unit](#) or the DC Lottery's Security team by phone at 202-645-9009 or email at dclbsecurity2@dc.gov.

Founded in 1982, the DC Lottery is the District of Columbia Government agency that regulates the sale of gaming products and charitable gaming activities in the District of Columbia. Since its inception, the DC Lottery has awarded more than **\$3 billion in prizes, transferred more than \$1.8 billion to the District's General Fund** which supports essential services in the District, and has helped local nonprofits raise more than **\$127 million in support of social causes**. Visit www.dclottery.com for detailed information about the DC Lottery.

###

DC LOTTERY – IT'S FUN TO PLAY!