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\$21.5 Million PICK-6 Jackpot Winners Claim Prize at Lottery Headquarters

TRENTON, NJ – (July 18, 2012) – The New Jersey Lottery is thrilled to introduce its latest multi-millionaire winners Robert and Amelia Talerico from Holmdel, New Jersey. They have come forward to claim their \$21.5 million prize from the June 25 Pick-6 game draw.

The Talerico's knew they had the winning ticket immediately after the drawing but took a few days to collect their thoughts before calling in their financial professional, Walter Tombs from Manasquan and legal counsel, James Maggs from Brielle, and Lottery headquarters.

The \$21.5 million jackpot winning ticket was **purchased at 7-Eleven #27769, Route 35, Kohl's Plaza, Holmdel in Monmouth County.**

"Congratulations to the Talerico's," said Carole Hedinger, Executive Director, New Jersey Lottery. "This is a life-changing jackpot and the fifth largest in Pick-6 history," she continues. "And congratulations to Jayesh Patel, the lucky retailer for selling this \$21.5 million ticket." Mr. Patel will receive a \$2,000 bonus check for selling this ticket.

New Jersey residents also benefit from the sizable Pick-6 jackpot. The contribution the State receives from this roll, which began on December 19, 2011 and ended on June 25, 2012 is more than \$20.5 million. Retailers also benefited with sales commissions of more than \$2.4 million. In Fiscal Year 2011 the Lottery contributed a record-breaking \$930 million to the State for aid to education and institutions, an increase of \$6 million from the prior year. FY 2011 is the fourth consecutive year that sales have crossed the \$2.5 billion mark. The \$930 million in contributions from the Lottery supports enhanced educational opportunities for our school-age children and the students attending our colleges and universities. The funding also improves the quality of life for our developmentally disabled and our state's veterans.

Hedinger also noted that the Lottery is the State's fourth largest individual revenue producer and that since it was created in 1970, it contributed approximately \$20 billion in support of programs such as: county college capital improvement initiatives; school nutrition efforts; the Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf; the operation of centers for the developmentally disabled, state psychiatric hospitals and homes for veterans; higher education tuition and grants; and aid to colleges and universities.

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“The Lottery continues to function as an integral component of the state’s economy,” Hedinger added. “It affords small, mid-size and large businesses a revenue generation source and additional marketing opportunities that non-lottery retailers do not have.” The Lottery retailer network received \$147 million in revenue from earned lottery commissions during this challenging economy, up \$2 million from FY 2010.

Watch live drawings on the New Jersey Lottery’s website (NJLottery.net) or on our Official Facebook Page.