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Illinois Lottery Players Get Chance to Play *Deal or No Deal* with Howie Mandel

Second-chance drawing sends nine winners to Los Angeles to visit Howie, the Banker and the Models

CHICAGO – April 10, 2008 – Nine lucky Illinois Lottery players have won a trip to Los Angeles for a chance to be on the stage of *Deal or No Deal* with Howie Mandel and take home \$1 million. From April 14 – 18, each winner, with up to three guests, will enjoy the lavish LA lifestyle that includes accommodations and parties at the exclusive Roosevelt Hotel. This once-in-a-lifetime experience ends with a trip to the set of *Deal or No Deal* and the opportunity to join Howie Mandel on stage for the chance at \$1 million.

Illinois Lottery made the trip possible through its participation in the *Deal or No Deal* linked instant-ticket game. Twenty-two states came together to make the \$5 instant ticket a huge success, marking the first time that multiple states collaborated on an instant ticket. The second-chance opportunity is a direct result of the popularity of the instant ticket, in which players submitted up to two non-winning instant tickets into a drawing for the trip.

“We’re excited to give our dedicated *Deal or No Deal* Players a chance to try their hand at the real thing,” said Jodie Winnett, acting superintendent for the Illinois Lottery. “The second-chance drawing allowed us to give our players the chance to not only appear on television and win a million, but also enjoy a true Los Angeles experience.”

The nine lucky Illinois Lottery players with a chance at *Deal or No Deal* fame and fortune are:

- Michael Welter, from Chicago
- Carol Levart, from Highland, Ill.
- Brien McHale, from Arlington Heights, Ill.
- Doris M Vollmer from New Baden, Ill.
- Vicki Champlain from Pontiac, Ill.
- Gerald Walsh Jr., from Bradley, Ill.
- Joseph Barry, from Burbank, Ill.
- CeCi Erickson, from Kankakee, Ill.
- Pat Elfering, from Wadsworth, Ill.

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Not everyone gets on stage with Howie to play for \$1 million, but everyone goes home a winner. Each winner will be able to select a briefcase with a secret dollar amount inside (ranging between \$5,000 and \$25,000) and one briefcase will contain the word “Contestant.” The winner who selects the briefcase containing the word “Contestant” will win the opportunity to be a Grand Prize Finalist. Grand Prize Finalists will play the real *Deal or No Deal* game with the guaranteed (no annuities) cash prize between \$0.01 and \$1 million dollars in accordance with the *Deal or No Deal* Television Game Show rules.

This is not the last time the nine finalists will have to win \$1 million. Their entries will be included in a drawing to be held on or about September 17, 2008. There’s still an opportunity for others to enter this second-chance drawing. Visit www.illinoislottery.com for more details.

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.

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