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Illinois Lottery Achieves Record-Breaking Sales in FY08

*Superintendent announces more than \$2 billion in revenue
and \$657 million in Education Contributions*

Springfield, Ill. – September 5, 2008 – The Illinois Lottery today reported sales of \$2.078 billion for fiscal year 2008—the highest single-year sales in the Lottery’s 34-year history. FY08 sales increased 2.8 percent over FY07, the previous record-setting year.

FY08 contributions to the state’s Common School Fund came in at \$657 million, or 5.5 percent over the previous year, according to Lottery officials. In addition, through the sale of cause-specific “specialty” instant games, in FY08 the Lottery raised \$2.5 million for Illinois veterans groups, \$1.4 million for the battle against breast cancer, and \$1.1 million to improve the lives of people living with AIDS.

“2008 was a great year for the Lottery,” said Jodie Winnett, acting superintendent of the Illinois Lottery. “Sales and Common School Fund transfers were both up, and we raised sizeable revenue for other worthy causes.”

FY’08 Unaudited Gross Game Sales Figures

Game	FY’08 Sales	FY’07 Sales	FY’06 Sales
Pick Three	\$299,016,150	\$308,639,745	\$309,201,135
Pick Four	\$167,786,838	\$170,184,303	\$170,060,299
Numbers Now/Extra	Not sold	Not sold	\$1,436,361
Lotto	\$112,993,365	\$112,192,646	\$125,420,043
Little Lotto	\$128,464,536	\$127,882,900	\$126,584,133
Mega Millions	\$221,142,274	\$195,855,179	\$243,842,559
Instant	\$1,114,450,764	\$1,061,604,639	\$999,514,065
Pick ‘n Play	\$18,434,035	\$30,840,554	\$13,123,261
Raffle	\$15,940,280	\$14,058,280	Not sold
Total	\$2,078,228,242	\$2,021,258,246	\$1,989,181,856
Year-to-Year Change	\$56,969,996	\$32,076,390	\$146,302,150
Year-to-Year Change	2.82%	1.61%	7.94%



Lottery Revenue & Common School Fund Contributions (FY'06 – FY'08)

Fiscal Year	Revenue	Year-to-Year Change	Year-to-Year Change	Common School Fund Contribution	Year-to-Year Change	Year-to-Year Change
2006	\$1,989,181,856	\$146,302,150	7.94%	\$670,500,000	\$56,500,000	9.20%
2007	\$2,021,258,246	\$32,076,390	1.61%	\$622,444,200	-\$48,055,800	-7.16%
2008	\$2,078,228,242	\$56,969,996	2.82%	\$657,000,000	\$34,555,800	5.55%

Winnett attributes the Lottery’s success in FY08 to several factors including; responding to player suggestions, improving service to retailers, and offering attractive products and promotions with strong player appeal.

“I want to thank our players, retailers, employees and vendors for the numerous successes we realized in fiscal year 2008,” said Winnett. “I am hopeful that 2009 will mark the sixth consecutive year of record sales.”

FY08 instant game sales topped \$1.11 billion – or 53 percent of total sales – a single-year sales record. Other Lottery products that saw sales increase over FY07 include: Lotto, Little Lotto, Mega Millions and Raffle.

Complete audited financial results for the 2008 fiscal year will be provided when the Lottery publishes its annual report in 2009. Annual reports for fiscal 2006 and 2007 are posted on the Lottery’s Web site at www.illinoislottery.com.

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.