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Benefits Education and Institutions

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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High resolution Photos:

<http://tinyurl.com/z4a8vww>

DIRECTOR INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

Gift Responsibly this Holiday Season

Lottery Tickets Aren't Child's Play

TRENTON (Dec. 5, 2016) – Today, the New Jersey Lottery (NJL) and the Council on Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey, Inc. (CCGNJ) held a press conference to urge parents to use good judgment when making holiday gift selections for their children. During this holiday season, the NJL has joined the CCGNJ, National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG), and the International Centre for Youth Gambling Problems and High-Risk Behaviors at McGill University to build public awareness that lottery products are not an appropriate gift for minors.

“During the holiday season and throughout the year, the Lottery is deeply committed to the prevention of underage gambling and to responsible play. Based on industry best practices, we caution the public against gifting lottery tickets to children,” said NJL Executive Director Carole Hedinger. “New Jersey law requires lottery purchasers to be 18 years of age or older. While the law does not prohibit adults from giving tickets to minors, research suggests that this may not always be a good idea.”

According to Neva Pryor, executive director of the CCGNJ, “The New Jersey Lottery is a valuable partner with the Council in efforts to reinforce the message that parents and other adults should refrain from gifting lottery tickets to minors.”

To reinforce the message, the Lottery crafted a holiday advertising campaign that includes the messaging, “Parents are urged to think twice about gifting lottery tickets to children.” The advertising campaign reiterates messaging that is present on the “Responsible Play” section of the Lottery’s website.

About the New Jersey Lottery

Since its inception in 1970, the New Jersey Lottery (NJLottery.com) has contributed nearly \$24 billion to the State in support of education and institutions. Among its beneficiaries are: veterans homes, colleges and universities, school nutrition programs, homes for the developmentally disabled, psychiatric hospitals, higher education scholarship programs and the Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf.

About the Council on Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey, Inc.

Since 1983, the CCGNJ has helped problem and compulsive gamblers and their families providing professional and compassionate services to a wide range of audiences. The Council’s mission is to provide prevention, education and referral services to anyone affected by this disorder. They operate the most widely recognized gambling help number in the nation, the 1-800-GAMBLER® Helpline, available in 20 states with 24-hour, immediate, confidential assistance to anyone affected by gambling problems.



Anything
can happen in Jersey.

New Jersey Lottery • PO Box 041 • Trenton, NJ 08625 • NJLottery.com Must be 18 or older to buy a lottery ticket. Please play responsibly. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, call 1-800-GAMBLER.