



Philip D. Murphy, Governor
Sheila Y. Oliver, Lt. Governor
Elizabeth Maher Muoio, State Treasurer
James Carey, Acting Executive Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Inquiries:

MaryAnn Rivell
Public Information Office
PublicInfo@lottery.nj.gov
Phone: (609) 599-5875

IT'S A HAPPY NEW YEAR FOR THE SMITH FAMILY OF BAYONNE!

PICK-6'S NEWEST MULTI-MILLIONAIRES HAVE FILED THEIR CLAIM FOR \$29,500,000

TRENTON (Feb. 20, 2019) – The longest government shutdown in US history that began on Dec. 22, 2018 and ended on Jan. 25, 2019 had a detrimental impact on hundreds of thousands of federal workers, many of them residents of New Jersey. One of the affected agencies was the National Park Service that manages sites throughout the Northeast, including the historic park site at Fort Wadsworth in Staten Island where one New Jersey resident and lottery player is employed. This dedicated worker was waiting along with her colleagues through days of being furloughed without pay and an uncertain determination about when this furlough might end.

Though the grim news was broadcast day after day that workers might miss another paycheck, the New Jersey Lottery proved to be a great assist for this particular furloughed ~ but very lucky ~ National Park Service employee who had bought a ticket for Dec. 17, 2018 Pick-6 lottery drawing.

On Dec. 18, the day after the drawing, the Lottery issued a press release advising residents the winning ticket had been sold by Eddy's Wine and Liquors at 490 Avenue C in Bayonne. Park Ranger Judith Smith realized that was the location where her ticket had been purchased; her son returned to Eddy's and used the self-check machine to scan the ticket to be sure it definitely was the winner. After confirming they had the winning ticket for \$29.5 million, this furloughed worker and her children changed their focus away from the government shutdown. They became engaged in seeking sound legal and financial advice so they could go about filing a claim for the New Jersey Lottery's Pick-6 jackpot that would make them multi-millionaires.

The Lottery knew the ticket had been scanned and the owner was aware this was the only winning ticket for that \$29.5 million jackpot. Now, it was just a matter of waiting to meet that ticket holder who would come forward to file a claim. At Lottery Headquarters in Lawrenceville, three lucky people came forward to claim their jackpot and start 2019 as a happy new year!

Today, New Jersey Lottery Acting Executive Director James A. Carey announced the furloughed worker, **Judith Smith of Bayonne and her children, William Kenneth Lee Smith and Sarah Jude Smith, as the winners of the Monday, Dec. 17, 2018 Pick-6 Jackpot, the largest Pick-6 jackpot in over 10 years.**

(more)



Anything
can happen in Jersey.

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The Smith Family of Bayonne, Pick-6 Jackpot Winners

Judith told Lottery officials she had put the winning ticket in a safe place, which they checked regularly, while taking time to consult with an attorney before coming to Lottery offices.

The \$29.5 million jackpot is the largest Pick-6 jackpot in New Jersey since May 2004. In this Pick-6 game-roll, more than 2.23 million lottery players won nearly \$35 million in prizes and better than \$28.8 million was generated in contributions to the State.



For selling the winning Pick-6 ticket from the December 17, 2018 drawing, Eddy's Wine & Liquors received a \$10,000 bonus.

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