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Connection to a Father Pays Off Big

TRENTON (August 16, 2019) – Carlos Vallejo of Hackensack in Bergen County is a long-time lottery player who loves playing draw games, especially Jersey Cash 5, and watches the drawing on television every night.

For years, Carlos has selected his own numbers using the significant dates of family birthdays and other important events. On a recent visit to his regular New Jersey Lottery retailer, he used those same numbers to purchase Jersey Cash 5 tickets for the Saturday, June 8th drawing. While watching the drawing that night, he couldn't believe what he was seeing; he had just hit the jackpot of \$1,639,820! Carlos said to himself, "No, no, no! It can't be that all of my numbers matched."

Carlos kept checking his ticket to make sure he had seen the right thing. "I was going crazy," he said. He decided to go to the retailer to confirm that this really was a winning ticket. After scanning the ticket, the retailer congratulated Carlos and gave him the good news – he hit the jackpot!



While at Lottery Headquarters to file a claim, Carlos told Lottery officials he felt so many emotions and it really took a while to set in that he had won the jackpot. "I cannot believe it. I got so nervous, I cried," he said. He had won the Pick-4 game a while back, but this was his first win of this magnitude. Both times that he has won, he played numbers that were connected to his father. Carlos plans to save and invest his winnings.

The New Jersey Lottery retailer that sold the winning ticket was Essex Street Liquors & Wines, 216 Essex St., Hackensack in Bergen County.

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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.