

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

Media Inquiries:

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

Clifton Man Thinks Small, Wins Big

TRENTON (Jan. 9, 2019) – Mr. Isam is a regular lottery player who likes playing both the Crossword scratch-off games and, when the jackpots are high, he also likes to play the draw games. He said he loves doing Crossword puzzles, so Crossword lottery tickets are the most appealing to him, and he has often won prizes of \$50 or \$100.

On a recent day when he went to the 7-Eleven in Clifton where he usually buys his tickets, a \$5 Super Crossword scratch-off ticket caught his eye and he decided to try his luck with that game. When he

scratched-off the ticket while he was still in the store, he thought he had won \$50; he gave the ticket to the retailer saying, "Please cash my \$50 ticket so I can buy my coffee, etc." When the retailer replied that he couldn't cash the ticket, Mr. Isam asked him why not, saying "I know you have \$50 in your register." The retailer told him, "I cannot give you \$50 because you have won \$50,000!" Mr. Isam said his mouth dropped open and he was in a state of shock; he couldn't believe what he has just heard! This was his very first big win!



While on his way home, Mr. Isam said he still couldn't believe he has just won such a large amount of money; it just didn't seem real. When he got home and excitedly told his wife Fayza they had just won \$50,000, she didn't believe him at first. She knew he had won other times in the past, but it was more like \$50 or \$100. Mrs. Isam wouldn't believe him until he showed her the actual ticket; when she saw the evidence, she was happily surprised! When Mr. Isam was asked if he will continue to play the Crossword games, he said of course he will.

Mr. Isam and Fayza said they held on to their ticket for about a week until they could visit Lottery Headquarters in Lawrenceville to file their claim. They were filled with delight to talk about their win. They plan on giving each of their children and grandchildren some of the winnings and investing the rest in bonds.

The retailer that sold the lucky ticket was 7-eleven #32949, 1202 Main Ave., Clifton in Passaic County.

###



