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## Inventory of the California State Lottery Commission Records

Processed by Kim Mitchell

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## Inventory of the California State Lottery Commission Records

### Collection number: R181

California State Archives  
Office of the Secretary of State  
Sacramento, California

Processed by:

Kim Mitchell

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Encoded by:

Jessica Knox

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### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** California State Lottery Commission Records

**Dates:** 1985-1999

**Collection number:** R181

**Creator:** State Lottery Commission

**Collection Size:** 3 cubic feet and 4 audio reels

**Repository:** California State Archives

Sacramento, California

**Abstract:** The State Lottery Commission, a five-person commission appointed by the Governor with the concurrence of the State Senate, was created with the passage of the California State Lottery Act of 1984. The records of the California State Lottery Commission consist of 3 cubic feet and 4 audio reels of press and meeting files that cover the years 1985-1999. The majority of records pertain to game regulations, contract approvals, and assorted reports.

**Physical location:** California State Archives

**Languages:** Languages represented in the collection: English

### Access

Collection is open for research.

### Publication Rights

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### Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], State Lottery Commission Records, R181.[Series Number], [box and folder number], California State Archives, Office of the Secretary of State, Sacramento, California.

### Acquisition and Custodial History

The California State Archives acquired the State Lottery Commission Records according to state law.

### Administrative History

On November 6, 1984, 58% of California's voters approved Proposition 37. This initiative statute was titled The California State Lottery Act of 1984 and amended the California Constitution to authorize the establishment of a statewide lottery. California State Lottery ticket sales began on October 3, 1985 with the sale of Scratcher tickets and the weekly Lotto game began on October 14, 1986.

The Act created the State Lottery Commission (SLC), a five-person commission appointed by the Governor with the concurrence of the State Senate. One of the Commissioners needed to have a background in law enforcement, one was a Certified Public Accountant, and not more than three of the five Commissioners could be members of the same political party. The Commission is responsible for determining the types of lotteries to be held, the frequency of lottery drawings,

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the price of lottery tickets, the number and value of lottery prizes, and the locations where lottery tickets can be sold. The Commission is charged with ensuring the integrity, security, and fairness of the Lottery. The Commission meets at least once per quarter and their meetings are open to the public.

The primary purpose of the Act is to provide supplemental monies to benefit public education without the imposition of additional or increased taxes. The initiative requires that 50% of the proceeds from lottery ticket sales are to be paid out as lottery prizes and that no more than 16% of the proceeds are to be used for administrative costs. The remainder of the proceeds (at least 34% of the total) were to be placed in a special fund, known as the California State Lottery Education Fund, which is appropriated for the benefit of public education. Revenues to this fund are to be made available for public education and allocated on a per-capita basis to the following four categories: K-12 education, Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California. These funds are to be used to augment, rather than replace, funds already allocated for public education and are to be spent for instructional purposes.

#### **Scope and Content**

The records of the California State Lottery Commission consist of 3 cubic feet and four audio reels of press and meeting files that cover the years 1985-1999. The Press File includes a proposed script for a televised special and a transcript of a press conference. Meeting Files include agendas, minutes from previous meetings, transcripts, correspondence, reports, contract agreements, travel plans, notes on general and public discussion, calendars for scheduled meetings, financial statements, annual election of commissioners, and various types of approvals and amendments often pertaining to commission policies, game regulations, game profiles, budgets, and marketing strategies.

The bulk of this collection dates from 1992-1997 and the majority of records pertain to game regulations, contract approvals, and assorted reports. Events of interest found in the meeting files include the introduction the Retailer News publication (1994), the Public School Marketing and Recognition Program (1995), Retailer Incentives for Scratcher Automation (1996), and Year 2000 computer compliance arrangements (1998). In 1997, the Commission dealt with topics such as the Minority/Woman Owned Business Enterprise Program, the Continuous Tracking Study, a Super Bowl promotion, the Small Business Outreach Program, and Retailer Compliance with The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Technological improvement was emphasized in 1999 with meeting items such as presentation of the new website, electronic funds transfer services, and regulations regarding the disclosure of winner information.

#### **Related Collections at the California State Archives**

The Archives owns related artifacts including the original Wheel from the Big Spin Show.

#### **Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

California State Lottery

California State Lottery Commission

Lottery winners

Lottery ticket vendors

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ID R181.1, Box 1,  
Folders 1

#### **Series 1 Press File 1985**

**Physical Description:** 1 file folder

#### **Arrangement**

Arranged chronologically.

#### **Scope and Content Note**

This file includes a proposed script for a televised special meant to debut the Lottery to the public. It also contains the transcript of what is apparently the first press conference held by the Commission, dated February 4, 1985.

ID R181.2,  
Box 1-3,  
Folders 2-34

Series 2 **Meeting Files 1985-1999**

**Physical Description:** 88 file folders and 4 reel-to-reel tapes

**Arrangement**

Arranged chronologically.

**Scope and Content Note**

These files include agendas, minutes from previous meetings, transcripts, correspondence, reports, contract agreements, travel plans, notes on general and public discussion, calendars for scheduled meetings, financial statements, and various types of approvals and amendments pertaining to commission policies, game regulations, game profiles, budgets, and marketing strategies. Audiotapes have been separated to a cold-storage vault for preservation purposes and separation sheets are in the meeting files to alert the researcher to the existence of these tapes.

The bulk of this series dates from 1992-1997 and the majority of documents pertain to game regulations, contract approvals, and assorted reports. Some events of interest over the years include the introduction the Retailer News publication (1994), the Public School Marketing and Recognition Program (1995), Retailer Incentives for Scratcher Automation (1996), and Year 2000 computer compliance arrangements (1998). A year of many modifications was 1997. The Commission dealt with topics such as the Minority/Woman Owned Business Enterprise Program, the Continuous Tracking Study, a new Super Bowl promotion, the Small Business Outreach Program, and Retailer Compliance with The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Technological improvement was emphasized in 1999 with meeting items such as presentation of the new website, electronic funds transfer services, and regulations regarding the disclosure of winner information.