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Children Shouldn't Find Lottery Tickets in Their Stockings
*Arizona Lottery Joins National Movement to
Gift Responsibly this Holiday Season*

PHOENIX (Dec. 8, 2017) – Arizona Lottery tickets are the perfect stocking stuffer this holiday season, but the lottery is reminding its players they are not fitting gifts for minors.

The Arizona Lottery has joined the Holiday Lottery Campaign, a collaborative initiative between the National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG) and McGill University's Youth Gambling Centre. This annual responsible gambling campaign is designed to increase public awareness about the impact of gifting lottery products to minors.

Since 2005, the Arizona Lottery has generated more than \$3.9 million for the Division of Problem Gambling at the Arizona Department of Gaming (ADG). These funds help pay licensed treatment providers who deliver counseling services to people and families affected by problem gambling. Arizona Lottery is dedicated to combatting not only under age gambling, but problem gambling across the state.

"We are proud to be a part of the NCPG Holiday Lottery Campaign again," Executive Director of the Arizona Lottery Gregg Edgar said. "This campaign is a positive approach to preventing underage gambling and maximizing public benefit. Arizona Lottery games are exciting to play and are ideal for gift giving; however, we want to remind our players to continue to play responsibly and that lottery tickets are not suitable for minors."

The Arizona Lottery joins a network of more than 50 national and international lotteries encouraging players to participate in responsible gambling and help keep the holiday season festive by gifting lottery tickets responsibly to adults.

Daniel Bergin, ADG Director, said, "During this season of giving, we encourage you to give the gift of hope and help to yourself or someone you know by calling 1-800-NEXT-STEP, our 24/7 confidential problem gambling helpline."

Growing concern around adolescent problem gambling coupled with extensive research prompted the development of the campaign. Studies suggest that gambling is an increasingly popular yet risky activity among minors. In addition, research shows that a portion of problem gamblers report beginning gambling during childhood.

The campaign has become a global initiative with the endorsement of the World Lottery Association, North American Association of State and Provincial Lotteries and the European Lottery Association.

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About the Arizona Lottery

Since 1981, the Arizona Lottery has provided more than \$3.7 billion in funding to programs and services benefitting people of all ages. In the 2017 fiscal year, the Arizona Lottery approximately generated more than \$198 million to vital programs throughout the state in support of education, economic development, environmental conservation and health and human services. The mission is to support Arizona programs for the public benefit by maximizing net revenue in a responsible manner. Learn more at ArizonaLottery.com.

About ADG

Established by the Arizona State Legislature in 1995, ADG is the state regulatory agency for tribal gaming, pari-mutuel racing and wagering, boxing and mixed martial arts, and problem gambling education, prevention, treatment and self-exclusion services. Learn more at [Arizona Department of Gaming](http://ArizonaDepartmentofGaming) and ProblemGambling.az.gov.