

Beat: Miscellaneous

## MAN IN IRAQ WINS LOTTERY JACKPOT IN THE UNITED STATES

### TICKETS FOR THE OREGON MEGABUCKS ONLINE

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**USPA NEWS** - 'Are you sure? Are you sure?' - M. from Baghdad couldn't quite believe his luck when he got the phone call to say he had won the Oregon Megabucks jackpot of nearly R100 million. He was driving in his car and was on his way to the bank....

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Last week M. picked up his prize at the Oregon Lottery offices in Salem, Oregon. The Iraqi winner opted to remain anonymous to keep himself and his loved ones out of harm's way and he will have the prize paid out in 25 instalments of about R4 million a year before taxes.

Oregon state lottery spokesman Chuck Baumann spoke to the Associated Press and said that this was the first time in the lottery's history that a person living overseas had bought a Megabucks ticket online and struck it rich. He added that 'the lottery has no restrictions on foreigners winning prizes or buying tickets through an online agent'.

M. had ordered his tickets through theLotter.com, a website which provides people from all over the world with a secure online purchasing service. The firm has established offices in the US and Europe physically purchasing official tickets on behalf of players from South Africa and anywhere else on the planet.

TheLotter.com has distributed nearly R600 million in prizes to 1.7 million lottery winners since it was founded more than a decade ago. The site has many South African customers, who, before the service launched, still had to fly out to the United States to buy US lottery draws like this week's R2.5 billion US Powerball.

Source : theLotter

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