

LOTTERY SCAM—SAMPLE 1



The lure of \$\$\$\$

Winning hundreds of thousands of dollars is the lure scammers use to grab your interest—but it's too good to be true—how can you win a fake lottery you didn't enter?

This is to inform you on the release of the EL-GORDO SWEEPSTAKE LOTTERY PROGRAM held on the 29th OF APRIL 2005. **Your name is attached to ticket number 025-11-464-992-750 with serial number 2113-05 drew the lucky numbers 13-15-16-21-34-36 which consequently won the lottery in the 3rd category.**

Only you

Scammers use your details to trick you into believing the letter is unique and that you are the only one who received it— **NOT TRUE!** In fact there are thousands of identical letters randomly sent out to trap people.

'Don't tell anyone!'

Scammers ask you not to tell anyone about your 'win' because they are scared that someone you talk to could warn you that this is a SCAM!

You have therefore approved for a lump sum payout of USD 615,810.00 (SIX HUNDRED AND FIFTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SIXTY EIGHT THOUSAND, SEVEN HUNDRED AND TEN UNITED STATES DOLLARS ONLY) in cash credited to file with REF.NO.EG/2251256003/01 and BATCH NO. 000750013. This is from a total **cash prize of USD 10,468,770 (TEN MILLION FOUR HUNDRED AND SIXTY EIGHT THOUSAND, SEVEN HUNDRED AND SEVENTY US DOLLARS ONLY)** shared among 17 (Seventeen) international winners in this category, CONGRATULATIONS!!!

There is no real money

There hasn't been a real lottery so how can there be any prize money?

Your fund is now deposited with a security company and insured in your name. **Due to mix up of some numbers and names, we ask that you keep this award from public notice until your claim has been processed and your money remitted to your account as this is part of our security protocol** to avoid double claiming or unwarranted taking of an advantage of this program by participants.

All participants were selected through a computer ballot system drawn from 25,000 names from Asia, Australia, New Zealand, Europe, America and North America as part of our international promotions program which we conduct once every year. We hope your lucky name will draw a bigger cash prize in the next years highstake USD 1.3 BILLION inter.lottery.

(UN) LUCKY YOU

Scammers tell you that you were randomly picked to enter the lottery. **NOT TRUE!** You and thousands of others were randomly picked to be victims of a SCAM!

The catch

The scammers won't send you any prize money **BECAUSE THERE IS NO PRIZE MONEY!** They want you to contact them and give them your personal information and bank account details. Then they'll make up some reason for you to send them money first before they can release your 'prize'—like taxes or transfer costs for the prize money. Once you send them money, they will keep making excuses to get you to send more money. They'll use your personal details to **steal money from your bank account!**

To begin your claim, please contact your claims agent, DR, ROSA HARRISON the foreign service Manager of SANTA LUCIA SECURITY COMPANY, S.A. on TEL:011 34 653-262-748 FAX: 011-34 675-339-003 for the processing and remittance of your winning prize money to a designation of your choice.

Remember, all prize money must be claimed not later than 4th of July 2005 this date all funds will be returned to the MINISTERIO DE ECONOMIA Y HACIENDA as unclaimed. And also be informed that 10% of your Lottery Winning will be paid to SANTA LUCIA SECURITY COMPANY S.A. after you have received your money.

'Hurry before it's too late!'

Scammers pressure you with tight timeframes to respond so you don't have a chance to check whether it is a real offer. **DON'T RESPOND! Take your time to investigate the letter thoroughly! Check out SCAMwatch for help.**

NOTE: in order to avoid unnecessary delays and complications, please remember to quote your reference and batch numbers in every correspondence with us or your agent. Furthermore, should there be any change of your address do inform your claims agent as soon as possible. Enclosed with this letter is also a payment processing form which you should complete and return to Fax Number 011 34 67-339-003 for **immediate processing of your claims.**

Congratulations once again from all our members of staff and thank you for being part of our International promotions program.

YOURS SINCERELY,

Jose Luis Miguel

JOSE LUIS MIGUEL
VICE PRESIDENT



Looks official—it must be real! NOT TRUE Scammers use official language, letterheads, and logos to make the prize win look real. These things are easily copied from official lotteries. Because the letter came from overseas, you can't easily check up on the company to check whether it's real or a fake.