June 4, 2012

Robert F. McDonnell Governor

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**WIRGINIA LOTTERY** 

The Honorable Robert F. McDonnell Governor Commonwealth of Virginia Patrick Henry Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Richmond, Virginia 23219

Re: April 2012 Lottery Results

Dear Governor McDonnell:

I am pleased to provide our report of monthly activities and financial update for the month of April 2012, as required in §58.1-4006 of the *Code of Virginia*.

Chapter 2, 2012 Special Session1, now includes a revised estimate of \$473.1 million available to the Lottery Proceeds Fund for FY 12. The results outlined in this update reflect comparisons to a revised profits and transfer estimate of \$461.4 million (\$11.7 million less than the current figure in the budget approved and signed on May 25, 2012) as endorsed by the State Lottery Board in March 2012. Future updates for Fiscal Year 2012 will compare results to the new estimate in the Act.

April sales totaled \$135.1 million, up \$10.6 million (+8.5%) compared to the same month last year. Year to date sales totaled \$1,350.7 million, an increase of \$107.3 million (+8.6%) compared to last year and \$79.9 million (+6.3%) ahead of the revised forecast. Net income for the fiscal year through April totaled \$410.8 million, an increase of \$39.6 million (+10.7%) compared to last year, and \$32.9 million (+8.7%) ahead of forecast. Scratcher tickets, in particular, continue to experience record sales growth for the year.

Based on the unprecedented Mega Millions jackpot and continued strong sales in all other categories, the Lottery believes it will be able to achieve the \$473.1 million in expected proceeds reflected in the current budget; however, an unexpected large prize payout between now and June 30 could impact attaining that target.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if you would like more information.

Very truly yours,

Paula I. Otto

c: The Honorable Walter A. Stosch, Chairman, Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable Lacey E. Putney, Chairman, House Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Harry R. Purkey, Chairman, House Finance Committee
The Honorable Martin Kent, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor
The Honorable Richard D. Brown, Secretary of Finance
Daniel S. Timberlake, Director, Department of Planning & Budget
David A. Von Moll, State Comptroller
Elizabeth B. Daley, Staff Director, Senate Finance Committee
Robert P. Vaughn, Staff Director, House Appropriations Committee
Albert H. Poole, Chairman, Virginia Lottery Board

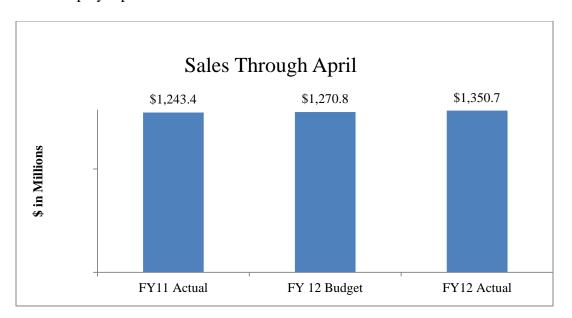
# VIRGINIA LOTTERY

Report to the Governor and Selected Members of the General Assembly June 4, 2012

## Sales

Lottery sales for the fiscal year totaled \$1,350.7 million through April. This represents an increase of \$107.3 million (+8.6%) compared to the prior year, and \$79.9 million (+6.3%) more than forecast.

Scratcher sales of \$699.6 million were \$69.7 million (+11.1%) higher than last year, accounting for most of the overall sales increase. Sales of daily games (Pick 3, Pick 4, and Cash 5) increased slightly, up \$11.2 million (+2.8%) from last year. Sales in the jackpot games category (Mega Millions, Powerball, Win for Life, and Decades of Dollars) increased \$23.3 million (+11.6%) compared to last year. Sales of Fast Play games, a category that represents less than 1% of total sales, were \$3.0 million (+42.3%) higher than last year because of the timing of product availability in this category, as well as changes implemented to better meet player preferences.



### **Expenses**

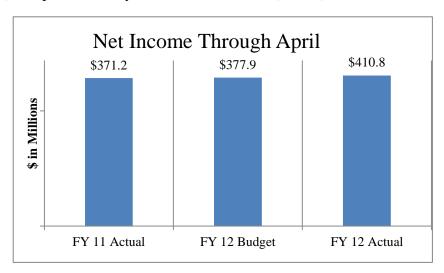
The overall prize expense rate (prizes as a percent of sales) through April was 59.5%, slightly less than last year's rate of 59.6%. The scratcher prize rate of 67.9 % was lower than last year's rate of 68.3%. The daily games prize rate of 50.6% was higher than last year's rate of 50.0%. The jackpot games prize expense rate was 49.6%, lower than last year's unusually high rate of 51.5%. It is important to note that significant fluctuations in prize expense rates occur during the short term; however, overall long-term prize rates reflect outcomes more in line with statistical expectations.

With higher sales, retailers earned \$6.4 million more than last year, for a total \$76.1 million in earnings. Overall, retailers earned 5.6% of Lottery sales in commissions and incentives so far this fiscal year.

Administrative operating costs, including online gaming, ticket printing and distribution expenses, were \$1.4 million less than the same period last year. Administrative spending stands at 4.6% of sales for the year so far, an exceptionally low rate. We expect fiscal year 2012 administrative costs to be lower than last year's rate of 5.5%, and well less than the 10% allowed by statute.

#### Net Income

Through April 2012, year to date profits totaled \$410.8 million, an increase of \$39.6 million (+10.7%) compared to last year and \$32.9 million (+8.7%) more than forecast.



## CONTRIBUTIONS TO DEBT SETOFF & LITERARY FUND

For the 2012 fiscal year to date, the Lottery made debt setoff collection payments to the Department of Taxation totaling \$1,259,355. Also, unclaimed prizes totaling \$9,909,045 were transferred to the Literary Fund for the first ten months of fiscal year 2012.

## <u>MEETINGS</u>

The Lottery Board held a regular business meeting on May 16, 2012, in Richmond. At that meeting, the Board formally approved the revised revenue estimates for the 2012-2014 biennium. The Board also discussed the increased estimate included in the caboose bill for the 2012 fiscal year. The next meeting of the Board will be August 8, 2012.