October 13, 2017

Office of the Attorney General  
Consumer Protection Division  
1305 E. Walnut  
Des Moines, IA 50319

RE:  Release of Winner Information

To Whom It May Concern:

The Lottery has been in verbal and written contact with the Office of Attorney General on several occasions relating to this issue. As you already know, on September 23, 2017, the Iowa Lottery identified that it had inadvertently released the Social Security numbers of some of its prize winners from calendar year 2011. The release occurred as the lottery was responding to a journalist’s open-records request for a list of all Iowa Lottery winners of $600 or more since the Iowa Lottery’s start in 1985.

This data release impacted 2,967 winners of Iowa Lottery prizes from calendar year 2011. The data provided to the journalist was published in mid-September on a website, with the Social Security numbers included. That data was on that website for about 10 days until Sunday afternoon, Sept. 24th, when it was removed at the lottery’s request.

There has been no indication that any of the data has been compromised or misused in any way. However, in an abundance of caution, the Iowa Lottery notified all impacted persons and offered access to free credit monitoring services. We have also notified the Iowa Department of Revenue, which intends to monitor the accounts and filings of impacted persons for any indicators of fraud.

This release of sensitive information was unintentional. The lottery sincerely apologizes for this mistake. The lottery takes seriously is obligation under the law to respond to open-records requests and seeks to complete that work quickly, efficiently and accurately. We have reviewed our procedures to identify improvements that can be made as we move ahead.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Rob Porter  
Vice President, General Counsel