

Euro International Lottery Board SA

Sweepstake Competition Programme – Awards Department

Avd. Juan Real 25 CP 2800

Madrid Spain

Ref EIL/004824893

From the Desk of the President

International Promotions – Awards Department

RE: Award Notification Final Notice

We are pleased to inform you today of the results of the Euro International Lottery Board held as part of our ongoing awards bonanza programme. Your name attached to the ticket number 05-236-74-93473 with serial number 9375-34 drew the lucky number of 21-23-30-41-42-46 which consequently won the lottery in the 3rd category. You have therefore been approved for a lump sum payout of €642,230 (SIX HUNDRED AND FORTY-TWO THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTY EUROS ONLY) in cash credited to file with ref. no EIL/004824893. This is from a total cash prize of €17,870,403 (SEVENTEEN MILLION, EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVENTY THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED AND THREE EUROS ONLY) shared among international winners in this category.

Your fund is now deposited securely and is insured in your name. Due to mixup over names we require you to keep this award CONFIDENTIAL from public notice until your claim has been processed and money remitted to your account as this is part of our security protocol to avoid double claims or unwarranted taking advantage of the Programme by non participants. All participants were selected by a computer system from 30,000 names across the world as part of our International programme which we conduct twice a year.

To begin your claim please contact your claims agent EDUARDO BENITEZ, Foreign Operations Manager for GLOBAL SECURITY S.A. on tel 0034 658 033 15509 fax 0034 699 902 79909 for processing and remittance of your prize to an identified account of your choice. All prize money must be claimed within TWO WEEKS – after this date all unclaimed monies will be returned to the Ministro De Economia Y Hacienda. Please also remember that 5% of your winnings are due to your agent GLOBAL SECURITY S.A. because they entered you into this draw, and that they will retain your winning ticket for security and verification purposes.

In order to avoid delays and complications please remember to quote your reference number in every correspondence with us or your agent. Should there be any change to your address details please inform your claims agent immediately.

Enclosed with this letter is a payment processing form which you should complete immediately and return to your agent by fax 0034 699 902 79909. Congratulations from all members of our staff and thanks for being part of our promotions programme.

Sincerely
[signature]

Dr Marc Rodrigues
President

Global Security SA

Leasing, Commission Agent, Sole Representatives, Security Services
Avd de San Morales, No 2, Blk 7 CP 2800 Madrid España
Tel 0034 658 033 15509 Fax 0034 699 902 79909

Payment Processing Form (complete carefully and return by fax to GSSA)

Your Ref No.....
Ticket Number.....
First name.....Last name.....
Date of Birth.....
Home Address.....
City.....State.....Post Code.....
Telephone Number.....Mobile Number.....
Fax.....E-Mail.....
Profession.....Marital Status.....

Option of Payment: Bank Transfer [] Cheque []

Amount Expected (EUROS).....
Bank Name.....**Account Number**.....
Sort Code.....**Bank Address**.....
City.....**State**.....**Post Code**.....

Next of Kin If Any

First name.....Last name.....
Home Address.....
City.....State.....Post Code.....
Telephone Number.....Mobile Number.....
Profession.....Marital Status.....

Declaration

I Mr/Mrs.....Hereby authorize Global Security SA to act on my behalf in the processing and transfer of my lottery prize to my nominated account, and agree to pay 5% commission to them on receipt of this money. I declare that I have never received any payment on my behalf from Global Security SA nor have any of my family members or next of kin filed a claim on my behalf.

Signature.....Date.....

The hook

This is the 'hook' that the scammers use to grab your interest. Lottery mailings like this one aren't complicated in their approach, they just tell you that you're entitled to a big sum of money, and who wouldn't want that? It would be nice to have had some anonymous benefactor enter us into a foreign lottery and then win the jackpot, but it's too good to be true. Scammers send out mailings like this as the first step in taking people's money, promising a jackpot that you haven't won in a lottery you haven't entered in return.

The pitch

It's official – scammers using letters like these try different tricks to make you think that they're from a legitimate company. They copy logo images from official national lotteries and use them on the letters and use official-sounding jargon to make you think that their claims are genuine, and even ask how you'd like to be paid your winnings. They also make statements about how large and established their lottery is, and rely on the fact that they're based abroad so that people don't know that this isn't true and can't easily check.

For your eyes only – the scammers who send out these letters don't want you to talk about them, but that isn't because this could stop you getting your prize money, it's because someone you talk to might warn you off responding to the scam. They also use other tricks to make your letter look like it's unique, like fake lottery ticket numbers or printed signatures that are made to look hand-written so that you'll think you're the only one receiving a letter – in fact they send out thousands of identical letters.

Urgent! – to get you to part with your money as quickly as possible the scammers behind these letters set very short deadlines for you to respond, and emphasise how urgent it is that you get in touch with them quickly to avoid losing your winnings. But there aren't really any winnings – the deadline is just there so that they can get hold of your money more quickly, and so that it's harder for the authorities to catch up with them.

The con

Here's the catch – they aren't sending your winnings to you, you have to get in touch with them and provide them with your personal data (including your bank details). When you do get in touch they'll be very enthusiastic about your success and make all sorts of claims about how they'll get your winnings to you. However, they'll tell you that for some reason you'll have to send them some money first to release your winnings – to take care of taxes on the money, for example, or for 'security' purposes. In reality there are no winnings, and if you do send them money then they'll be back to ask for more until you realise that they're scamming you. They'll also make use of the personal details you supply by making unauthorised deductions from your bank account and selling your details to other scammers so that they can also target you.