

## March 2017

### **[Campaign highlights underpayment of apprentices \(www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170331-apprentices-campaign-report-mr\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170331-apprentices-campaign-report-mr)**

31 Mar 2017

A Fair Work Ombudsman report has revealed that one in three Australian businesses audited as part of the agency's National Apprenticeship Campaign failed to pay their apprentices correct wages.

### **[Wollongong targeted for unannounced audits \(www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170331-wollongong-campaign-mr\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170331-wollongong-campaign-mr)**

31 Mar 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has conducted a series of unannounced audits in Wollongong in response to concerns young workers in the town are being exploited.

### **[Workplace audits indicate room for improvement for small businesses in Top End \(www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170330-nt-fast-food-campaign-mr\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170330-nt-fast-food-campaign-mr)**

30 Mar 2017

Spot checks of 16 take-away and informal dining outlets in the suburbs of Darwin have found that more than 60 per cent were not compliant with workplace laws.

### **[Queensland labour-hire operator slammed for “appalling and egregious treatment” of visa-holders \(www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170328-maroochy-sunshine-penalty\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170328-maroochy-sunshine-penalty)**

28 Mar 2017

A Queensland labour-hire company and its director have been penalised \$227,300 for deliberately exploiting vulnerable foreign workers after luring them to Australia with a string of false promises.

### **[Victorian business faces legal action over failure to pay compensation \(www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170328-wch-litigations-mr\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170328-wch-litigations-mr)**

28 Mar 2017

A former trolley collecting services operator in regional Victoria is facing court for allegedly ignoring Fair Work Commission orders to compensate two employees who had been unfairly dismissed.

### **[\\$72 000 in penalties after international student exploited, dismissed by text message \(www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170327-](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170327-)**

## **golden-vision-2nd-penalty-mr)**

27 Mar 2017

The operator of a Queensland resort restaurant has been penalised for his “deliberate and calculated” conduct in exploiting a young international student and dismissing her by text message because she refused to accept below-Award wages.

## **Packing company delivered \$220K penalty after “appalling greed” in underpaying migrant workers (www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170324-acc-services-penalty)**

24 Mar 2017

A Melbourne packing services business with a history of short-changing workers and one of its directors have been penalised more than \$220,000 for underpaying three staff, including two visa holders.

## **Judgment confirms Compliance Notice and \$77,000 for Indian worker (www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170323-hindu-society-judgment)**

23 Mar 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has won judicial support for the first review of a compliance notice.

## **New app, heavier penalties reinforce record-keeping as core business (www.fairwork.gov.au/About-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/March-2017/20170321-record-my-hours-op-ed)**

21 Mar 2017

As workers get an innovative new tool to record their hours, it is time for businesses to take record-keeping as seriously as the courts and government.

## **New app to prevent exploitation of young and migrant workers (www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170317-record-my-hours)**

17 Mar 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has released a new app aimed at tackling the persistent problem of underpayment of young workers and migrant workers around the country.

## **Regional NSW restaurant commits to change after underpaying workers more than \$22,000 (www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170316-soul-food-eu-release)**

16 Mar 2017

A restaurant in regional NSW has agreed to back-pay more than \$22,000 to 24 workers - including teenagers paid as little as \$7 per hour - following an audit by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

## **Muffin Break and Jamaica Blue make a public commitment to compliance with workplace laws (www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170313-foodco-pcd-mr)**

13 Mar 2017

One of Australia's leading businesses in the café sector has made a public commitment to ensure compliance with workplace laws across its 300 plus outlets by partnering with the Fair Work Ombudsman.

**[Former Canberra café operator faces court \(www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170310-gtig-litigation\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170310-gtig-litigation)**

10 Mar 2017

The former operator of a Canberra café is facing Court for alleged serious contraventions of record-keeping and pay slip laws.

**[Perth security company allegedly underpaid guards \\$200,000 \(www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170309-sureguard-security-litigation\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170309-sureguard-security-litigation)**

9 Mar 2017

A Perth security company is facing Court for allegedly underpaying its guards more than \$200,000.

**[Gold Coast restaurant operator allegedly paid overseas workers as little as \\$8 an hour \(www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170307-samurais-paradise-litigation\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170307-samurais-paradise-litigation)**

7 Mar 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has commenced legal action against the operator of a Japanese restaurant on the Gold Coast, alleging his company paid overseas workers as little as \$8 an hour and used false records to suggest he paid higher rates.

**[A warning for growers, hostel owners and labour-hire contractors on wage rates \(www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170306-warning-for-growers-mr\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170306-warning-for-growers-mr)**

6 Mar 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman is urging horticulture businesses to be vigilant when engaging workers from labour-hire operators this harvest season by making themselves aware of the minimum rates of pay for casual pickers under the Horticulture Award.

**[Court action over alleged exploitation of migrant trolley collectors in Bendigo \(www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170303-jobans-trolley-litigation\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/march-2017/20170303-jobans-trolley-litigation)**

3 Mar 2017

A trolley collection subcontractor is facing Court for allegedly exploiting two migrant workers at Bendigo, in regional Victoria, and using false records to try to cover it up.

## Contact us

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