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Australian Government

**Fair Work**  
OMBUDSMAN

## 2017 media releases

**[Gold Coast workers back-paid \\$50,000 \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/media-releases/2017-media-releases/august-2017\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/media-releases/2017-media-releases/august-2017)**

23 Aug 2017

Three workers in Queensland's Gold Coast region have been granted back-pay entitlements after seeking assistance from the Fair Work Ombudsman.

**[Meatball and Wine Bar faces court for allegedly unfair practices \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/new-media-releases/august-2017/20170822-the-meatball-and-wine-bar-faces-court-for-allegedly-unfair-practices\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/new-media-releases/august-2017/20170822-the-meatball-and-wine-bar-faces-court-for-allegedly-unfair-practices)**

22 Aug 2017

A Melbourne restaurateur will face court after his company allowed workers to be underpaid across three of his restaurants, despite having received professional advice.

**Farming waste company promises compliance with Fair Work Act after \$94,000 fine (http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/august-2017/20170818-downes-rice-hulls)**

18 Aug 2017

A farming waste company in regional NSW that underpaid 16 workers and overhauling its workplace practices, following intensive workplace audits.

**Workplace audits indicate room for improvement (http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/august-2017/20170817-broome-audits-m)**

17 Aug 2017

Spot checks of several small businesses in Broome in Western Australia have found \$8643 in owed wages for local workers.

**Pizza Hut franchisee underpaid staff almost \$20,000 (http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/pizza-hut-newcastle-eu)**

11 Aug 2017

The franchisee of a Pizza Hut outlet at Newcastle, in NSW, underpaid staff. An investigation by the Fair Work Ombudsman has found.

**New guides to help apprentices get off to a good start (http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/new-guides-launch-mr)**

9 Aug 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has launched two new guides to help apprentices understand their rights and obligations in the workplace.

**Compliance checks for 200 businesses in South Australia (http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/august-2017/20170808-sa-south-east-reg)**

8 Aug 2017

At least 200 businesses in and around Mount Gambier, Renm the Fair Work Ombudsman's latest education and compliance

**Court action after young journalists allegedly unc**  
**([http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-r](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-r releases/august-2017/20170804-touchpoint-media)**  
**releases/august-2017/20170804-touchpoint-media**

4 Aug 2017

A company that operates news websites covering regional Ql allegedly underpaying 23 young journalists more than \$300,0

**Record penalty of \$660,000 for fruit market opera**  
**weeks ([http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/new](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/new releases/august-2017/2017-08-02-mhoney-penalty)**  
**releases/august-2017/2017-08-02-mhoney-penalty**

2 Aug 2017

Record penalties of more than \$660,000 have been awarded market and his company which deliberately ignored warnings worker any wages for weeks.

**Sushi operator allegedly underpaid vulnerable wo**  
**([http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-r](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-r releases/august-2017/20170801-tokyo-sushi-litiga)**  
**releases/august-2017/20170801-tokyo-sushi-litiga**

1 Aug 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has commenced legal action aga NSW for allegedly underpaying workers more than \$70,000.

**Migrant workers can now anonymously report wo**  
**([http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-r](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-r 2017/20170731-migrant-worker-anon-report-tool)**  
**2017/20170731-migrant-worker-anon-report-tool)**

31 Jul 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman is making it easier for migrant wo launching its popular Anonymous Report function in 16 langu

**Labour-hire operator penalised for flouting laws |**

**[Queensland farms \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-releases/july-2017/20170726-hta-farmings-p\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-releases/july-2017/20170726-hta-farmings-p)**

26 Jul 2017

A Queensland labour-hire company and its manager have been flouting record-keeping and pay slip laws relating to vulnerable workers, cautioned by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

**[More than \\$100,000 in unpaid wages and entitlements \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-releases/2017/20170726-perth-metro-mr\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-releases/2017/20170726-perth-metro-mr)**

26 Jul 2017

Intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman to assist employees in Perth resulted in more than \$100,000 back-pay for 41 workers across the Perth Metro area.

**[Deliberate and systemic underpayments lead to top penalty for operator \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-releases/july-2017/20170725-js-top-penalty\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-releases/july-2017/20170725-js-top-penalty)**

25 Jul 2017

A former Brisbane 7-Eleven operator has been hit with \$168,000 in penalties for falsifying records to conceal the underpayments.

**[Not for profit back-pays \\$370,000 to workers after challenge \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-releases/2017/20170721-challenge-eu-release\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-releases/2017/20170721-challenge-eu-release)**

21 Jul 2017

A not-for-profit business in northern NSW inadvertently underpaid workers after incorrectly classifying each of them as an 'employee with a disability' when it has found.

**[Melbourne travel agency lands in court for alleged false records \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-releases/july-2017/20170720-abella-travel-litigation\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-releases/july-2017/20170720-abella-travel-litigation)**

20 Jul 2017

A Melbourne travel agency and one of its directors are facing

pay back more than \$20,000 of her wages and for proposing second worker.

**Joint operation uncovers alleged exploitation of c  
restaurants (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-releases/july-2017/20170717-ye-shao-litigations-mr>)**

17 Jul 2017

The operator of two popular Melbourne restaurants is facing operation allegedly discovered employees had been underpa

**Townsville café operator faces legal action over f  
(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-r/2017/20170714-port-douglas-investments-litigatio>)**

14 Jul 2017

The former operator of a café at Townsville in regional Queensland Work Commission order to compensate an employee who wa

**More than \$140,000 recovered for local workers in  
(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-r/2017/20170713-far-north-queensland-campaign-mr>)**

13 Jul 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has released the findings of its re Innisfail, Mission Beach and surrounding areas.

**No VIP treatment for guards allegedly dismissed,  
(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-r/2017/20170712-vip-security-litigation>)**

12 Jul 2017

A Gold Coast security company owner is facing the Federal C “straight to the dole queue” if they spoke to Fair Work Ombuc

**Subway franchisee faces Court over alleged delik  
(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-r/2017/20170707-subway-franchisee-litigation-mr>)**

7 Jul 2017

The franchisee of two Subway outlets in Sydney is facing Court action for more than \$16,000.

**New resources to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workplace rights (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/july-2017/20170706-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-workplace-rights>)**

6 Jul 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has launched a suite of new resources to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees and employers to understand their workplace rights.

**Fruit farmer allegedly underpaid Malaysian workers (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017/20170705-zucco-farming-litigation>)**

5 Jul 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has commenced legal action against a fruit farmer for underpaying two Malaysian fruit pickers more than \$13,000 a year. The case is being handled by Work inspectors.

**Statement from the Fair Work Ombudsman: Private businesses (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017/20170704-fwo-statement-on-employsure>)**

4 Jul 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has received complaints from members of the public who are, or were, connected to private businesses into believing that private businesses are, or were, connected to government agencies.

**Penalty over failure to back-pay Indian workers (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/july-2017/20170703-fwo-penalty-over-failure-to-back-pay-indian-workers>)**

4 Jul 2017

A Fair Work Ombudsman legal action has secured a penalty against a suburban Melbourne employer for failing to back-pay two underpaid Indian workers.

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Fair Work Online: [www.fairwork.gov.au](http://www.fairwork.gov.au)

Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94

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Hearing & speech assistance

Call through the National Relay Service (NRS):

For TTY: 13 36 77. Ask for the Fair Work Infoline 13 13 94

Speak & Listen: 1300 555 727. Ask for the Fair Work Infoline 13 13 94

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The Fair Work Ombudsman is committed to providing advice that you can rely on. The information contained on this site is intended to help you understand your rights and obligations. If you are unsure about how it applies to your situation you can call our Infoline on 13 13 94 or speak with a union, industry or professional. Visitors are warned that this site may inadvertently contain names or pictures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have recently died.