

2017 media releases

Melbourne cafe operator back in Court after 54 employees allegedly underpaid \$73,000
<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/july-2017/20170703-ital-one-holdings-cafe-baci-litigation>

3 Jul 2017

The operator of a 24-hour café in Melbourne's Crown Casino precinct is facing Court for allegedly undercutting minimum wage and penalty rates despite having been put on notice, resulting in 54 employees being underpaid more than \$70,000.

New minimum wage rate in effect from tomorrow (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20170630-awr-go>)

30 Jun 2017

A new national minimum wage comes into effect from the first pay period on or after tomorrow, 1 July 2017.

Third legal action against former trolley collecting company (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20170629-wch-services-litigation-no3>)

29 Jun 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has commenced litigation against a former regional Victorian trolley collecting operator for the third time for allegedly failing to pay a Fair Work Commission order for compensation to a worker who had been unfairly dismissed.

Adelaide nail salon operator accused of underpaying staff and providing false or misleading records to the FWO (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20170628-house-of-polish-litigation>)

28 Jun 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has commenced legal action against the operator of an Adelaide nail salon, alleging two young, migrant workers were underpaid more than \$50,000 and false records were later provided to the FWO.

Sour deal for a dozen workers at Gold Coast chocolate cafe (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20170626-oliver-brown-cafe-litigation>)

26 Jun 2017

An Oliver Brown chocolate café franchisee on the Gold Coast is facing Court, with the Fair Work Ombudsman alleging 12 employees – including seven overseas workers – were underpaid more than \$24,000.

200 businesses face audits in Sydney – South West region (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20170623-sydney-south->

west-campaign)

23 Jun 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman is targeting businesses in the South West region of greater Sydney in its latest campaign to promote compliance with workplace laws.

Fair Work Ombudsman intervention leads to improved compliance, national campaign shows (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20170622-national-compliance-monitoring-campaign>)

22 Jun 2017

A nation-wide audit of 891 businesses previously found to have contravened workplace laws has revealed the positive impact of intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman on improving employers' compliance.

FWO and ASIC target Melbourne businesses in joint campaign (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20170620-fwo-asic-joint-campaign>)

20 Jun 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman and the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) are auditing 50 businesses in the Melbourne CBD and inner suburbs in their second joint operation.

Fruit and veg supplier to Melbourne celebrity chefs underpaid worker \$23,000 (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20170620-flavours-fruit-and-veg>)

20 Jun 2017

A Victorian fruit and vegetable wholesaler that supplies to high profile Melbourne hotels and restaurants is overhauling its workplace practices after a Fair Work Ombudsman investigation found it underpaid a worker more than \$23,000.

Former Brisbane Coffee Club franchisee penalised over unlawful cash-back payment (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20170619-coffee-club-penalty>)

19 Jun 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has secured more than \$180,000 in penalties against a former Coffee Club café franchisee in Brisbane for contraventions including requiring an overseas worker on a 457 skilled worker visa to pay back \$18,000 of his wages through an unlawful cash-back payment.

Get set for a new national minimum wage rate from 1 July (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20170616-annual-wage-review>)

16 Jun 2017

The Fair Work Commission has announced an increase of 3.3 per cent to the national minimum wage following its annual wage review.

Further legal action related to popular Perth restaurant chain (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20170615-hans-cafe-rockingham-litigation>)

15 Jun 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has commenced further legal action relating to the Han's Café chain in Perth, alleging staff at the Rockingham outlet - including several teenagers and overseas workers - were underpaid more than \$27,000.

Pizza Hut franchisee faces Court over alleged sham contracting, underpayment

(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20170615-skyter-litigation>)

15 Jun 2017

A Pizza Hut franchisee on the Gold Coast is facing Court for alleged sham contracting activity and underpaying an Indian delivery driver more than \$6000.

Brisbane massage parlour operators face Court (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20170614-bishnu-laxmi-litigation>)

14 Jun 2017

A massage parlour operator in the Brisbane CBD is facing Court after allegedly underpaying two workers more than \$12 000.

Allegations of underpayments and failure to produce documents land silo company in court (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/About-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/June-2017/20170613-nelson-silos-litigation>)

13 Jun 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has taken legal action against a silo manufacturer in northern Victoria, alleging it underpaid two workers a total of almost \$13,000 despite having previously been put on notice to pay workers their lawful entitlements.

Almost \$60,000 in penalties for sham arrangements send message to unscrupulous employers (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20170612-quest-penalty>)

12 Jun 2017

A sham arrangement case that was the subject of a successful High Court appeal by the Fair Work Ombudsman has now been finalised, with the former operators of a Perth accommodation facility penalised a total of \$58,740 in the Federal Court.

Penalties of \$447,300 and \$223,000 back-pay ordered after workers treated as “slaves” (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20170806-gps-penalty>)

8 Jun 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has secured near-record penalties of \$447,300 against the operators of a Sydney-based cleaning company, with the Federal Court finding the company treated vulnerable employees as “slaves” under a “calculated” scheme.

Labour-hire operator penalised for underpaying overseas workers on Queensland farms (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20170602-seasonal-farm-services-penalty>)

2 Jun 2017

Fair Work Ombudsman legal action stemming from the national Inquiry into exploitation of overseas workers on Australian farms has led to a Queensland labour-hire operator being penalised a total of \$102,000 for underpaying 144 employees.

[Penalties for blatant contraventions in popular Perth restaurant chain \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20160601-hans-cafe-penalty\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20160601-hans-cafe-penalty)

1 Jun 2017

The operator of a popular Perth restaurant chain has been penalised in Court for record-keeping practices that were so poor they prevented the Fair Work Ombudsman from determining the full extent of underpayments of vulnerable overseas workers.

[Reality TV contestant faces Court over alleged unpaid internship, underpayments \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20170601-her-fashion-box-litigation\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/june-2017/20170601-her-fashion-box-litigation)

1 Jun 2017

A fashion industry start-up that appeared on the reality show 'Shark Tank' is facing Court for allegedly running an unlawful unpaid internship program and underpaying three workers more than \$40,000.

[Sushi operator penalised for “deliberate and calculated” exploitation of Korean workers \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170529-kang-penalties-mr\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170529-kang-penalties-mr)

29 May 2017

A sushi-outlet operator, and the corporation of which he was the sole director and shareholder, have been penalised a total of \$136,250 for the “deliberate and calculated” exploitation of young Korean workers and using false records to try to cover it up.

[Sydney retailer faces Court for allegedly underpaying employee \\$60,000 \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170525-jpa-manchester-litigation-mr\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170525-jpa-manchester-litigation-mr)

25 May 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has commenced legal action against a Sydney retailer for allegedly underpaying an employee \$60,000, despite having been warned about short-changing staff.

[Tipoffs, pay calculations and app downloads hit major milestones at Fair Work Ombudsman \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170524-fwo-milestones-release\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170524-fwo-milestones-release)

24 May 2017

It has never been easier for Australian workers and their employers to obtain information or provide intelligence about their workplaces, with three of the Fair Work Ombudsman's newest online tools passing major milestones.

[Trolley-collection operator penalised for false records \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170523-civic-national-penalty-release\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170523-civic-national-penalty-release)

23 May 2017

The former operator of a trolley-collection company at Wagga Wagga, in regional NSW, has been penalised almost \$30,000 for providing false records to the Fair Work Ombudsman.

Melbourne labour-hire operator faces Court over alleged exploitation of overseas worker
(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170519-leonard-green-litigation>)

19 May 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has commenced legal action against a Melbourne labour-hire operator who allegedly paid an overseas worker nothing for almost three months of work.



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Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94

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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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