

2017 media releases

[Malaysian restaurant operators back in Court \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170518-mamak-second-litigation\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170518-mamak-second-litigation)

18 May 2017

The operators of an inner Sydney restaurant who were penalised almost \$300,000 last year for exploiting overseas workers are again facing legal action, accused of further underpayments.

[Plumbers who underpaid adult apprentice \\$40,000 commit to change \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170517-bendigo-smartplumb-eu-release\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170517-bendigo-smartplumb-eu-release)

17 May 2017

A plumbing business in regional Victoria which underpaid an adult apprentice more than \$40,000 after paying rates as low as \$7.37 per hour has committed to overhaul its workplace practices, after intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

[Fruit and vegetable retailer faces court for alleged \\$130K underpayments, false records \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170515-a-and-s-wholesale-litigation-mr\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170515-a-and-s-wholesale-litigation-mr)

15 May 2017

A Melbourne business operator is facing court for allegedly providing false records to the Fair Work Ombudsman and for underpaying more than \$130,000 to two workers.

[200 Ipswich businesses to face wage audits \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170513-ipswich-regional-campaign-release\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170513-ipswich-regional-campaign-release)

13 May 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman is auditing 200 businesses in Queensland's Ipswich region as part of a new proactive compliance and education campaign.

[Campaign finds little awareness of pay rates for clothing manufacturing workers \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170512-tcf-campaign-phase-one-mr\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170512-tcf-campaign-phase-one-mr)

12 May 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman is auditing hundreds of businesses nationally after finding a lack of awareness of the minimum pay rates that apply to workers who make clothes, bags and footwear in factories and their homes.

[Farmer paid no overtime to backpackers who worked two months without a day off \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases)

[/may-2017/20170512-waterfall-feedlot-penalty-mr\)](#)

12 May 2017

The operators of a remote beef cattle farm in Queensland have been penalised a total of \$130,000 after failing to pay overtime entitlements to overseas backpackers who worked more than two months straight, without a day off.

Sydney fast food operator penalised for underpaying Korean employees \$111,000
[/may-2017/20170511-little-vienna-penalty-mr\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170511-little-vienna-penalty-mr)

11 May 2017

The operators of a chain of fast food sandwich outlets in Sydney have been penalised a total of \$87,040 for exploiting overseas workers and using false records.

Shine comes off labour-hire firm who underpaid migrant workforce \$22,000 (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170509-shine-lead-eu-release>)

9 May 2017

A labour-hire business in Perth has back-paid 19 employees – mostly migrant workers – more than \$22,000 and agreed to revamp its workplace practices, following intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

Worker received \$9 an hour because of perceived reduced work capacity ([http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170508-box-hill-recovery-mr\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170508-box-hill-recovery-mr)

8 May 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has assisted a former employee of a seafood processing business in Box Hill, Victoria to recover \$85,000 in unpaid entitlements.

Fair Work Inspectors hit Fortitude Valley eateries with unannounced audits ([http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170505-fortitude-valley-food-precinct-op-mr\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170505-fortitude-valley-food-precinct-op-mr)

5 May 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has this week conducted a series of surprise visits to restaurants, bars and cafes in a popular casual dining precinct in Brisbane to check compliance with workplace laws.

Brisbane Coffee Club franchisee faces Court over alleged unlawful cash-back payment
[/may-2017/20170504-coffee-club-litigation\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170504-coffee-club-litigation)

4 May 2017

A Coffee Club café franchisee in Brisbane is facing Court for allegedly requiring an overseas worker to repay \$18,000 of his wages by threatening to cancel his 457 skilled worker visa if he refused.

New supply chain guides to help businesses avoid contracting risks ([http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170504-supply-chain-resources-mr\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170504-supply-chain-resources-mr)

4 May 2017

New tools to help prevent the exploitation of workers in contracted labour supply chains have been launched today by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

[Low penalties mean workers pay for dodgy record keeping \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170502-aig-2017-speech\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/may-2017/20170502-aig-2017-speech)

2 May 2017

Low penalties are creating an incentive for unprincipled employers to breach record keeping laws, according to Fair Work Ombudsman Natalie James.

[FWO commends Coles on its ongoing efforts to stamp out non-compliance by dodgy trolley collectors \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/april-2017/20170427-coles-eu-second-annual-report-mr\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/april-2017/20170427-coles-eu-second-annual-report-mr)

27 Apr 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has today released a report on the progress of Coles Supermarkets Australia Pty Ltd's (Coles) legal commitment to improve wage compliance and supply chain accountability for its trolley collection services.

[Canberra café operator faces Court over serious record-keeping failures \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/april-2017/20170421-yang-brothers-litigation-mr\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/april-2017/20170421-yang-brothers-litigation-mr)

24 Apr 2017

The operator of a Canberra café and its directors are facing court for alleged serious contraventions of record-keeping and payslip laws.

[Fair Work Ombudsman to audit 200 businesses in Wide Bay region \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/april-2017/20170421-qld-wide-bay-regional-campaign-mr\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/april-2017/20170421-qld-wide-bay-regional-campaign-mr)

21 Apr 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has contacted 200 businesses in Queensland's Wide Bay region as part of a new proactive compliance and education campaign.

[New workplace pact aims to improve compliance \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/april-2017/20170420-sa-dsd-mou\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/april-2017/20170420-sa-dsd-mou)

20 Apr 2017

South Australia's Department of State Development is joining forces with the Fair Work Ombudsman to help improve compliance with federal workplace laws relating to apprentices and trainees.

[Salon operator overhauls workplace practices after underpaying staff approximately \\$288,000 \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/april-2017/20170420-siajj-pty-ltd-eu-mr\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/april-2017/20170420-siajj-pty-ltd-eu-mr)

20 Apr 2017

The operator of seven popular hair salons in Victoria has agreed to review and overhaul its workplace practices after a Fair Work Ombudsman investigation revealed it had underpaid dozens of workers and

contravened record-keeping laws.

<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/april-2017/20170417-gold-coast-mr>

17 Apr 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has recently assisted three workers on the Gold Coast to recover more than \$33,000 in unpaid wages and entitlements.

<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/april-2017/20170415-north-west-sydney-mr>

15 Apr 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has assisted two workers in suburbs north-west of Sydney to recover almost \$50,000 in unpaid wages and entitlements.

<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/april-2017/20170412-opening-statement-inquiry-into-fair-work-amendment-bill-2017>

12 Apr 2017

Today, Fair Work Ombudsman, Natalie James, gave evidence before the Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee Inquiry into the Fair Work Amendment (Protecting Vulnerable Workers) Bill 2017.

<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/april-2017/20170408-transpetrol-litigation>

8 Apr 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has commenced legal action against a Norwegian shipping company, alleging it underpaid dozens of foreign crew more than \$255,000 while they were working in Australian waters.

<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/april-2017/20170407-mua-asp-employees-mr>

7 Apr 2017

The Fair Work Ombudsman has commenced litigation against the Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) and nine shipping crew over alleged unlawful industrial action that prevented a ship from leaving a port in south-west Victoria for almost two months.

<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/april-2017/20170406-activity-report-united-petroleum-mr>

6 Apr 2017

A Fair Work Ombudsman Activity Report has identified instances of non-compliance at United Petroleum retail fuel sites with more than 40 per cent of audited outlets found to be underpaying employees.

<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2017-media-releases/april->

2017/20170404-east-coast-retail-hair-beauty-campaign-mr)

4 Apr 2017

Hair and beauty salons and retail outlets are the focus of a new Fair Work Ombudsman compliance campaign that will target businesses along the east coast of Australia.

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

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