

2018 media releases

Three legal actions against remorseless trolley collecting operator result in \$130,000 in penalties (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/july-2018/20180713-wch-penalties>)

13 Jul 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman has secured more than \$130,000 in penalties against a Victorian trolley collecting operator, who caused “financial and emotional hardship” to three workers by sacking them and refusing to pay unfair dismissal compensation.

Sydney hair salon allegedly underpaid young apprentice more than \$14,000 (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/july-2018/20180712-hair-rass-me-litigation>)

12 Jul 2018

A hair salon owner will face court after allegedly underpaying a teenage apprentice in her first job more than \$14,000.

FWO’s Food Precincts campaign returns \$471,904 in wages owed to hospitality workers (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/july-2018/20180711-food-precincts-mr>)

11 Jul 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman’s audit of three popular food destinations has recovered \$471,904 for 616 workers, after the FWO found that 72 per cent of the 243 businesses audited had breached workplace laws.

\$130,000 penalties after nail salon engages in “elaborate sham” to hide exploitation (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/july-2018/20180710-house-of-polish-penalty>)

10 Jul 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman has secured a total of \$130,000 in penalties against the operators of an Adelaide nail salon for exploiting two young, migrant workers and creating false records as part of an “elaborate sham” to try to cover it up.

Building a culture of compliance in the restaurant sector through partnership between FWO and La Porchetta (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/july-2018/20180706-la-porchetta-pcd-release>)

6 Jul 2018

A Compliance Partnership between La Porchetta Franchising Pty Ltd (La Porchetta) and the Fair Work Ombudsman has demonstrated the effectiveness of close engagement with the regulator in promoting a culture of compliance throughout a franchise network.

Hair and beauty salon commits to change after underpaying overseas workers more than \$25,000 (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/july-2018/20180706-ohmed-pty-ltd-eu-release>)

6 Jul 2018

A Sydney hair and beauty salon operator has back-paid seven workers more than \$25,000 and will overhaul its workplace practices, under the terms of an Enforceable Undertaking with the Fair Work Ombudsman.

Perth labour supply business faces Court for alleged building site underpayments (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/july-2018/20180704-personnel-contracting-litigation>)

4 Jul 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman has commenced legal action against a labour supply company in Perth, alleging it misclassified young labourers as independent contractors, when they were in fact employees, and underpaid them thousands of dollars.

\$900k in underpayments, discrimination & coercion alleged in new action against massage parlour (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180629-foothai-litigation>)

29 Jun 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman has commenced civil legal proceedings against the former operators of a Canberra massage parlour, alleging they exploited seven Filipino workers, underpaying them a total of more than \$900,000 and threatening to have their families in the Philippines killed if they complained to the department responsible for immigration.

New minimum wage takes effect from Sunday (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180628-annual-wage-review-2018>)

28 Jun 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman is calling on businesses to check the new minimum pay rates that apply ahead of a new national minimum wage coming into effect from the first pay period on or after Sunday, 1 July 2018.

Almost \$100k in penalties after Caltex franchisee falsified wage records (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180628-aulion-penalty>)

28 Jun 2018

Penalties of almost \$100,000 against a former Caltex franchisee in Sydney for falsifying wage records send a message that serious consequences apply when fabricated records frustrate investigations, according to Fair Work Ombudsman Natalie James.

Fair Work Ombudsman to work with local councils to improve management of security supply chains (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180625-lgpi-report>)

25 Jun 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman has today released the findings of its Inquiry into the procurement of security services by local government, highlighting an opportunity for councils to work with the regulator to improve

supply chain governance efforts.

[CFMMEU penalised for unlawful industrial action \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180621-cfmmeu-penalty\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180621-cfmmeu-penalty)

21 Jun 2018

Legal action by the Fair Work Ombudsman has resulted in the Construction Forestry Maritime Mining and Energy Union (CFMMEU) being penalised in Court for organising unlawful industrial action at shipping terminals in Sydney and Brisbane.

[The Gig Economy: Navigating new ways to work \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180620-gig-economy-op-ed\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180620-gig-economy-op-ed)

20 Jun 2018

Opinion piece on the Gig Economy by Natalie James, Fair Work Ombudsman.

[More than \\$100k in penalties after Brisbane massage parlour refuses to back-pay two workers \\$12,842 \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180620-bishnu-laxmi-penalty\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180620-bishnu-laxmi-penalty)

20 Jun 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman has secured more than \$100,000 in penalties against the former operators of two massage parlours in the Brisbane CBD after they refused to back-pay two workers who had been underpaid less than \$13,000.

[Melbourne dental practice faces second legal action after allegedly underpaying another 457 visa holder \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180618-nobrace-litigation\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180618-nobrace-litigation)

18 Jun 2018

The former operators of a Melbourne dental practice are facing fresh allegations of significantly underpaying a 457 visa-holder, in a new Fair Work Ombudsman legal action.

[\\$216,700 in penalties after Pizza Hut franchisee engages in sham contracting \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180615-skyter-penalty\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180615-skyter-penalty)

15 Jun 2018

A Pizza Hut franchisee on the Gold Coast has been penalised a total of \$216,700 after exploiting an Indian delivery driver under a sham contract and using false records to try to cover it up.

['Reasonable steps' to promote compliance essential for franchisors to avoid liability and brand damage, says FWO \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180614-franchising-guides\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180614-franchising-guides)

14 Jun 2018

With recent laws changes setting clear expectations that franchisors need to consider how to prevent exploitation of workers, the Fair Work Ombudsman has launched a new resource providing practical advice to assist franchisors to promote sustained workplace compliance in their networks.

[Fair Work Ombudsman releases results of NSW audits \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-)

[us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180614-nsw-regional-campaign-report-mr\)](#)

14 Jun 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman has today released the findings of its proactive compliance and education campaigns targeting the mid-north coast and mid-western regions of NSW, which resulted in the recovery of \$431,792 for 629 local workers.

[Fair Work Ombudsman commences legal action against Foodora \(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180612-foodora-litigation>\)](#)

12 Jun 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman has commenced legal proceedings involving the gig economy, alleging that food delivery company Foodora Australia Pty Ltd (Foodora) engaged in sham contracting activity that resulted in the underpayment of workers.

[\\$134,000 in penalties after Melbourne CBD outlets exploit “marginalised and disadvantaged” workers \(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180612-photoplus-choibros-penalty>\)](#)

12 Jun 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman has secured more than \$134,000 in penalties against the former operators of a café and a retail outlet in the Melbourne CBD, after three overseas workers were paid as little as \$11 an hour.

[Migrant workers allegedly paid no wages for a year’s work under ‘work experience’ scheme \(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180608-joys-child-care-litigation>\)](#)

8 Jun 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman has commenced legal action against a Sydney childcare operator that allegedly failed to pay two migrant workers any wages for a year of work under the guise of an ‘unpaid work experience’ scheme.

[Fair Work Ombudsman releases results of Darwin audits \(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180608-darwin-city-campaign>\)](#)

8 Jun 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman’s proactive compliance and education campaign in Darwin has found that 54 per cent of audited businesses were non-compliant with their workplace obligations.

[Almost half of inner Adelaide businesses fail the basics in workplace compliance checks \(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180606-adelaide-city-campaign>\)](#)

6 Jun 2018

Audits of 125 businesses across the Adelaide CBD and surrounding suburbs have found 45 per cent to be non-compliant with workplace laws.

[\\$192,780 in penalties for Brisbane 7-Eleven outlet \(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/june-2018/20180605-s-and-a-enterprises-penalty>\)](#)

5 Jun 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman has secured almost \$200,000 in penalties against the operators of a 7-Eleven outlet in Brisbane for short-changing overseas workers and creating false records to try to cover it up.

Penalty against MCG head contractor over underpayments a “wake-up call” (<http://www.fair-work.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/may-2018/20180529-iss-penalty-mr>)

29 May 2018

A surprise night-time visit to the MCG by Fair Work Ombudsman inspectors to investigate exploitation of overseas workers in the venue’s supply-chain for cleaning staff has led to a \$132,217 penalty against the Australian arm of a global cleaning company.



Page reference No: 7815

Contact us

Fair Work Online: www.fairwork.gov.au
Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94
Need language help?
Contact the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 13 14 50
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

The Fair Work Ombudsman is committed to providing advice that you can rely on. The information contained on this website is general in nature. 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 association or workplace relations professional. Visitors are warned that this site may inadvertently contain names or pictures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have recently died.