

2018 media releases

Adelaide and Perth's popular food precincts hit with unannounced workplace audits
<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/march-2018/20180329-perth-and-adelaide-food-precinct-campaign>

29 Mar 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman has conducted a series of surprise visits to cafes, restaurants and bars in Adelaide and Perth, checking businesses' compliance with workplace laws.

A third of Tasmanian south and east coast businesses put on notice (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/march-2018/20180328-tas-se-coast-campaign>)

28 Mar 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman has today released the results of its proactive education and compliance campaign targeting Tasmania's south and east coasts, finding 31 per cent of audited businesses to be non-compliant with workplace laws.

\$200,000 in penalties after overseas worker exploited and sacked by text message
<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/march-2018/20180327-siner-enterprises-penalty-mr>

27 Mar 2018

The former owner-operator of an Indian restaurant in Perth has been penalised more than \$200,000 after paying an overseas cook nothing for almost four months' work then sacking him by text message for taking a day of sick leave.

Half of Barossa businesses breaching workplace laws, campaign finds (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/march-2018/20180322-barossa-gawler-two-wells-campaign-mr>)

22 Mar 2018

Half of Barossa businesses are committing at least one breach of workplace laws, according to a report released by the Fair Work Ombudsman today.

Fair Work Ombudsman 'Here to Help' Tasmania's multicultural community at Harmony Week event (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/march-2018/20180321-tas-harmony-week-community-event>)

21 Mar 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman is collaborating with the Multicultural Council of Tasmania (MCOT) to host a community event aimed at increasing multicultural communities' awareness of the information and assistance available when it comes to workplace issues.

<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/march-2018/20180320-hans-cafe-penalties>

20 Mar 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman has secured a total of \$80,000 in penalties against the franchisees of two Han's Café outlets in Perth after vulnerable staff were underpaid almost \$100,000.

<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/march-2018/20180316-western-sydney-campaign-mr>

16 Mar 2018

High rates of non-compliance uncovered by the Fair Work Ombudsman in Western Sydney have reinforced the importance of ensuring that Australia's culturally and linguistically diverse communities have ready access to workplace information and advice.

<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/march-2018/20180305-caltex-media-statement>

5 Mar 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman's latest Compliance Activity Report shows a workplace non-compliance rate of 76 per cent in the Caltex service network.

<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/march-2018/20180302-xia-jing-qi-litigations-release>

2 Mar 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman has commenced legal action against the former franchisee of a 7-Eleven retail outlet in the Melbourne CBD for allegedly exploiting three international students through a cash-back scheme.

<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/february-2018/20180227-spotless-litigation-mr>

27 Feb 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman has brought proceedings relating to redundancy entitlements, in a new legal action against services company Spotless Services Australia Limited for allegedly contravening workplace laws when it terminated the employment of three workers at Perth International Airport.

<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/february-2018/20180226-shmap-group-degani-litigation-mr>

26 Feb 2018

The operator of a Degani café in Melbourne's north-east is facing Court after he allegedly used false records to conceal more than \$12,000 in underpayments of staff, including teenagers and overseas workers.

<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/february-2018/20180223-anonymous-report-mil>

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23 Feb 2018

Thousands of anonymous reports from concerned members of the community are assisting the Fair Work Ombudsman to target unlawful practices in workplaces across Australia and deliver outcomes for workers who might otherwise not seek help.

Red flag for restaurant as almost \$200,000 in penalties imposed for deliberate underpayments (http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/february-2018/20180221-finn-fish-penalty-mr)

21 Feb 2018

The operators of a Melbourne restaurant have been hit with nearly \$200,000 in penalties, after a Judge ruled they deliberately underpaid workers.

\$81,000 in penalties after Perth security company offers “lame excuse” for underpaying guards (http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/february-2018/20180220-sureguard-penalty-mr)

20 Feb 2018

A Perth security company has been penalised in Court for underpaying its guards more than \$200,000, with a Judge saying the company’s claim that it thought overpaying in relation to minimum rates would “counteract” other rates of pay was a “lame excuse”.

Fair Work Ombudsman speaks your language with instant website translation (http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/february-2018/20180219-website-plug-in-mr)

19 Feb 2018

It is now easier than ever for overseas workers and linguistically diverse communities to find out about their workplace rights and obligations, with the Fair Work Ombudsman’s website now accessible in 40 languages other than English.

Being “too busy and lazy” to keep records results in \$43,200 in penalties for massage parlour operator (http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/february-2018/20180216-wuyu-penalty-case)

16 Feb 2018

The operator of a number of massage parlours in Adelaide who said he was “too busy and lazy” to keep proper records has been penalised for contraventions of record-keeping and pay slip laws, following legal action by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

Bundaberg transport company allegedly underpaid worker \$11,000 in less than a year (http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/february-2018/20180215-bundaberg-rt-litigation-mr)

15 Feb 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman has commenced legal action against a Bundaberg-based transport company for allegedly underpaying an employee more than \$11,000 over a period of just nine months.

Fair Work Ombudsman Inquiry uncovers rampant exploitation of Woolworths cleaners

(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/february-2018/20180214-ww-cleaners>)

14 Feb 2018

Cleaning contractors at 90 per cent of Woolworths' Tasmanian supermarket sites were not complying with workplace laws, a Fair Work Ombudsman Inquiry has found.

(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/february-2018/20180213-pulis-plumbing-mr>)

13 Feb 2018

Michael Patrick Pulis, a business operator who told his employee to “seriously, f**k off...” when the worker asked when he would receive money owed to him, has been penalised \$21,500.

(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/february-2018/20180209-nt-alice-barkly-campaign-release>)

9 Feb 2018

Audits of 38 businesses in Alice Springs and Tennant Creek have found that there is still some way to go in ensuring that businesses in the region are complying with workplace laws.

(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/february-2018/20180208-tennant-creek-womens-refuge-eu-release>)

8 Feb 2018

A Northern Territory refuge for women and children victims of domestic violence has back-paid 11 employees a total of more than \$50,000, after intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/february-2018/20180207-coles-eu-3rd-annual-report-mr>)

7 Feb 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman has welcomed findings of improved wage compliance and accountability in Coles' trolley collection network, with 91 per cent of the supermarket giant's stores now with 'in-house' trolley collection.

(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/february-2018/20180206-david-mayne-litigation>)

6 Feb 2018

The operator of a remote Northern Territory homestead is facing major penalties after underpaying 17 employees more than \$23,000.

(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/february-2018/20180201-degani-bentons-eu-release>)

1 Feb 2018

A Degani Bakery Café south of Melbourne has agreed to back-pay staff almost \$10,000 after a Fair Work Ombudsman audit found employees as young as 18 were being underpaid.

Southern ACT businesses on notice after campaign finds pay slip and wage rate breaches
(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/2018-media-releases/january-2018/20180131-act-southern-campaign>)

31 Jan 2018

The Fair Work Ombudsman has today released the findings of its proactive compliance and education campaign targeting the Southern ACT region, with 69 per cent of businesses found to be fully compliant with their workplace obligations.

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Contact us

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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

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.