

Allegations against Pioneer companies dismissed

16 August 2019

The Fair Work Ombudsman's legal action against Pioneer Facility Services and Pioneer Contracting Services (Pioneer companies) has been dismissed following an appeal.

In 2016, the Fair Work Ombudsman commenced legal action against the Pioneer companies and a subcontractor – Mr Sung Gun Hwang and his company OzKorea Pty Ltd – in relation to alleged underpayments of Korean cleaners at four Woolworths sites in Tasmania.

Last year, the Federal Circuit Court found that the Pioneer companies were accessories to underpayment contraventions by OzKorea and Mr Hwang – and the Court imposed penalties of \$17,000 against Pioneer Facility Services, \$17,000 against Pioneer Contracting Services, \$20,400 against OzKorea and \$5,000 against Mr Hwang.

The Pioneer companies appealed against liability and penalty and that appeal has now been allowed by consent in the Federal Court.

As a result, all penalties and findings of breaches against Pioneer Facility Services and Pioneer Contracting Services have been set aside and the Fair Work Ombudsman's case has been dismissed.

The findings and penalties against OzKorea and Mr Hwang are not affected by the appeal.

Any employers or employees seeking advice or assistance can visit www.fairwork.gov.au or call the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94. An interpreter service is available on 13 14 50.

Follow the Fair Work Ombudsman [@fairwork_gov_au](https://twitter.com/fairwork_gov_au) (http://twitter.com/fairwork_gov_au) or find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/fairwork.gov.au (<http://www.facebook.com/fairwork.gov.au>).

Sign up to receive the Fair Work Ombudsman's media releases direct to your email inbox at www.fairwork.gov.au/mediareleases (www.fairwork.gov.au/mediareleases).

Media inquiries:

Ryan Pedler, Assistant Director - Media

Mobile: 0411 430 902

ryan.pedler@fwo.gov.au (<mailto:ryan.pedler@fwo.gov.au>)

Page reference No: 9189

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