

Fair Work inspectors visit Southbank and Docklands precincts

21 April 2010

Surprise visits to retail and hospitality businesses at Melbourne's Southbank and Docklands precincts have found almost 70 per cent of employers are complying with federal workplace laws.

The Fair Work Ombudsman has completed audits of 18 businesses randomly selected for scrutiny as part of a rolling program in Victoria focused on shopping centres and industrial parks.

Six of the 18 businesses (33 per cent) recorded breaches. Four were in relation to record-keeping and payslips and two were in relation to underpayments.

Fair Work Ombudsman Executive-Director Michael Campbell says about \$14,600 is being recovered for 11 employees at two Docklands businesses after inspectors found they had been underpaid their minimum hourly rate and penalty rates for evening and weekend shifts.

Mr Campbell says the employers are co-operating with inspectors and have agreed to voluntarily back-pay all outstanding entitlements.

Some investigations remain ongoing and inspectors are confident of recovering \$10,200 for four employees at one further Docklands business.

Mr Campbell says employers or employees seeking up-to-date information on wage rates and conditions should contact the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94 or visit www.fwo.gov.au

Also available at the website is information and templates to assist employers better manage employment records and payslips.

Under Commonwealth workplace laws, employers must keep accurate time, wages, annual leave and other employment records and issue sufficiently detailed payslips.

Eleven Best Practice Guides have been developed to assist employers make better use of the provisions of the Fair Work Act and better understand other aspects of workplace laws.

The new guides are on the website and cover work and family, consultation and co-operation, individual flexibility arrangements, employing young workers, gender pay equity, small business, workplace privacy, managing underperformance, effective dispute resolution and improving workplace productivity in bargaining.

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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.