

Hamilton transport company faces court for allegedly underpaying truck driver \$20,000

10 February 2010

The Fair Work Ombudsman has launched a prosecution against a South-West Victorian transport company and its director for allegedly underpaying a truck driver more than \$20,000.

Facing court is Ron Priddle Transport and Logistics Pty Ltd, which is based in Hamilton, and company director, manager and shareholder Ronald Harold Priddle, also of Hamilton.

Documents lodged in the Melbourne Magistrate's Court allege Mr Priddle was centrally involved in his company underpaying a long-distance truck driver a total of \$20,272 between 2005 and 2008.

The Fair Work Ombudsman claims the driver was underpaid his loading and unloading allowance, living away from home allowance, annual leave entitlements and superannuation.

It is alleged that Mr Priddle was also involved in his company failing to comply with a Fair Work inspector's request to provide employment records relating to the truck driver.

Under workplace laws, employers must comply with requests from inspectors to provide employment records relating to employees and former employees.

Fair Work Ombudsman Executive Director Michael Campbell says the decision to prosecute was made because of the significant amount involved and the employer's failure to rectify the matter.

It is alleged the company and Mr Priddle committed multiple breaches of workplace relations laws.

The maximum penalty per breach is \$33,000 for the company and \$6600 for Mr Priddle for the underpayment matters and \$5500 for the company and \$1100 for Mr Priddle for the employment record matters.

The Agency is seeking penalties and a Court Order for the money allegedly owed to be back-paid.

Employers or employees seeking assistance should contact the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94 or visit www.fwo.gov.au For translations call 13 14 50.

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Contact us

Fair Work Online: www.fairwork.gov.au

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Call through the National Relay Service (NRS):

For TTY: 13 36 77. Ask for the Fair Work Infoline 13 13 94

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