

## Yeppoon tradesman reimbursed \$10,000 after complaint to Fair Work Ombudsman

25 February 2010

The Fair Work Ombudsman has recovered \$10,000 for a Yeppoon tradesman who was made redundant after 13 years with his employer.

The tradesman lodged a complaint with the Fair Work Ombudsman when he was made redundant but did not receive his full severance pay.

After inspectors contacted the company, the tradesman was promptly paid the money he was owed without the need for further action against the company.

Fair Work Ombudsman Queensland Director Julie Wade says the employer fully co-operated with inspectors and promptly rectified the underpayments.

“Our preference is always to work with employers to educate them and help them voluntary rectify any non-compliance issues,” Ms Wade said

“However, employers must be aware that it is their responsibility to ensure they pay staff correctly. If we do take matters to court, fines up to \$33,000 per breach of workplace laws can be applied.”

Ms Wade says the case highlights the importance of employers and employees alike contacting the Fair Work Infoline or visiting [www.fairwork.gov.au](http://www.fairwork.gov.au) to ensure they have the most up-to-date information on wage rates, conditions and redundancy entitlements.

The Fair Work Infoline - 13 13 94 – is open from 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday. Translations are available by calling 13 14 50.

The Fair Work Ombudsman promotes harmonious, productive and co-operative workplaces. It also monitors compliance and investigates breaches of national workplace laws.

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.

They include 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.

Media inquiries:

Craig Bildstien, Director Media & Stakeholder Relations,  
0419 818 484  
[craig.bildstien@fwo.gov.au](mailto:craig.bildstien@fwo.gov.au)

Ryan Pedler, Media & Stakeholder Relations Senior Adviser  
(03) 9954 2561, 0434 365 924  
[ryan.pedler@fwo.gov.au](mailto:ryan.pedler@fwo.gov.au)

## Contact us

Fair Work Online: [www.fairwork.gov.au](http://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

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