

Blue Mountains delivery drivers back-paid \$15,000 after regulator intervenes

24 June 2010

Two Blue Mountains delivery drivers have been back-paid more than \$15,000 after investigations by the Fair Work Ombudsman found they were underpaid.

The biggest underpayment was \$8700 for an Oberon delivery driver who did not get severance pay or annual leave entitlements.

After inspectors contacted the company and explained its obligations, the employee was reimbursed without the need for further action against the company.

In a separate case in Lidsdale, another delivery driver has been back-paid \$6900 after being underpaid the minimum hourly rate and casual loading.

Similarly, when Fair Work inspectors contacted the business and discussed its obligations, the employee was fully reimbursed.

Fair Work Ombudsman NSW Director Mark Davidson says most underpayments are the result of a lack of understanding by employers of their legal obligations, including wages and entitlements.

"That's why the Fair Work Ombudsman places such a strong focus on educating employers to understand and comply with workplace laws," Mr Davidson said.

"We have a flexible, fair approach and our preference is always to work with employers to help them voluntarily rectify any non-compliance issues we identify."

In most cases, the Fair Work Ombudsman does not prosecute employers for inadvertent breaches of workplace laws.

The Fair Work Ombudsman has a number of tools on its website - www.fwo.gov.au - to assist employees and employers to check minimum rates of pay, including PayCheck and Payroll Check.

Small to medium-sized businesses without human resources staff can also ensure they are better equipped when hiring, managing and dismissing employees by using free template employment documentation available online.

Employers or employees seeking assistance or further information can also contact the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94 from 8am-6pm weekdays. For translations, call 13 14 50.

In NSW this year, the Fair Work Ombudsman will make up to 10,000 educational visits to employers entering the national workplace relations system for the first time.

Media inquiries:

Craig Bildstien, Director, Media & Stakeholder Relations,
0419 818 484
craig.bildstien@fwo.gov.au

Richard Honey, Media & Stakeholder Relations Adviser
0457 624 146
richard.honey@fwo.gov.au

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

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.