

\$10,500 back-pay for Goondiwindi baker

25 June 2010

A baker in Queensland's Goondiwindi region has been back-paid \$10,500 after an investigation by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

The baker lodged a complaint with the Fair Work Ombudsman after he was underpaid his hourly rate, penalty rates and allowances.

The investigation also found the employer had failed to keep appropriate employment records.

After Queensland-based Fair Work inspectors contacted the company and explained its obligations, the worker was back-paid in full.

Fair Work Ombudsman Executive Director Michael Campbell says that given the employer co-operated and voluntarily rectified the matter, there will be no further action against the company.

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

Mr Campbell says that in most cases, the Fair Work Ombudsman does not prosecute employers for inadvertent breaches of workplace laws.

"We acknowledge that inadvertent and accidental breaches of workplace laws do and will occur," he said.

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 and employees seeking advice or assistance should contact the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94. Translations are available by calling 13 14 50.

Throughout 2010, the Fair Work Ombudsman will visit up to 10,000 Queensland employers who are entering the national workplace relations system for the first time to provide practical information and advice.

Media inquiries:

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

Richard Honey, Media & Stakeholder Relations Adviser
0457 924 146
richard.honey@fwo.gov.au

Page reference No: 4503

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.