

Murray Bridge worker back-paid \$6000 after Fair Work Ombudsman investigates

15 March 2010

The Fair Work Ombudsman has recovered \$6000 for a Murray Bridge (SA) worker after an investigation found he was underpaid.

Fair Work inspectors audited a horticultural services provider after the worker lodged a complaint when he was made redundant.

The investigation found the worker was underpaid severance entitlements and in time-in-lieu of notice.

After inspectors contacted the company, the worker was promptly paid the money he was owed.

Fair Work Ombudsman South Australian Director Carey Trundle says that given the employer has co-operated with inspectors and voluntarily rectified the matter, there will be no further action taken 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," Ms Trundle said.

"However, employers must be aware that it is their responsibility to ensure they pay staff correctly."

Ms Trundle says the Fair Work Ombudsman can help employers to understand their rights and obligations under the new National Employment Standards and Modern Awards, which came into effect on January 1.

"The new workplace law landscape provides a comprehensive safety net of minimum employment conditions that underpin the whole system," she said.

"The Fair Work Ombudsman has a range of user-friendly resources that can help employers and workers comply with workplace laws and operate their workplace according to best practice."

The Agency has offices in Adelaide, Mount Gambier and Port Augusta and last financial year recovered more than \$2 million for 1015 workers in South Australia who had been underpaid.

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

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

Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94

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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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