

## Fair Work Ombudsman recoups \$20,000 for two Western Pilbara workers

28 May 2010

An investigation by the Fair Work Ombudsman has recovered \$20,000 for two Western Pilbara workers in WA.

The employees - who worked for the same mining contractor - lodged complaints after they did not receive payment in lieu of notice on termination.

Fair Work inspectors raised the issue with the employer, who voluntarily reimbursed the workers \$10,700 and \$9300 respectively.

In a separate case, a Karratha mechanic has been back-paid \$7300 after he was underpaid his redundancy entitlements.

Similarly, the employer reimbursed the worker after its lawful obligations were explained by Fair Work inspectors.

Fair Work Ombudsman WA Director Leigh Quealy says the Agency places a strong focus on educating and assisting employers to understand and comply with workplace laws.

"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," he said.

Equally, Mr Quealy says its important regional workers understand there is an Agency they can turn to if they have workplace concerns.

"We are very serious about ensuring regional communities understand their rights and obligations in the workplace," he said.

The Fair Work Ombudsman has a number of tools on its website, [www.fwo.gov.au](http://www.fwo.gov.au), to assist employees and employers to check minimum rates of pay, including Paycheck.

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 with step-by-step instructions or accessing a series of Best Practice Guides.

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.

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## 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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