

Goulburn Valley workers back-paid \$47,000

19 November 2010

A number of workers in Victoria's Goulburn Valley have been reimbursed \$47,000 after recent investigations by the Fair Work Ombudsman found they were underpaid.

The largest underpayment was \$10,100 for a Shepparton transport worker who was not getting penalty rates or meal allowances for overtime.

After Fair Work inspectors contacted the company and explained its obligations the worker was immediately back-paid.

The recovery is among a number of cases finalised recently, including:

- \$8500 for a Seymour driver underpaid his contractual entitlements,
- \$8200 for a Shepparton cook who was underpaid the minimum hourly rate,
- \$8200 for Shepparton truck driver area underpaid the kilometre rate, annual leave and personal leave,
- \$6800 for a Benalla labourer underpaid wages, annual leave and long service leave, and
- \$5500 for a Kialla labourer underpaid annual leave entitlements on termination.

Fair Work Ombudsman Executive Director Michael Campbell says that given the employers all co-operated and voluntarily rectified the underpayments, there will be no further action against the companies.

"Our preference is always to work with employers to educate them and help them voluntary rectify any non-compliance issues," he said.

Mr Campbell says employers need to regularly review their Award or agreement to ensure they are fully aware of their obligations to their workers.

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

An 'Industries' section on the Fair Work Ombudsman's website provides information specifically tailored for employers and workers in the retail, cleaning, clerical, hair and beauty, security and horticulture industries.

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.

Note: we are unable to provide additional information on the cases listed above.

Media inquiries:

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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.