

\$22,000 recovered for Sunshine Coast workers

21 April 2011

A number of workers on Queensland's Sunshine Coast have been reimbursed a total of \$22,000 after recent investigations by the Fair Work Ombudsman found they were underpaid.

The largest recovery was \$9800 for a Nambour truck driver who was underpaid wages in lieu of notice and redundancy entitlements.

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

Other recent recoveries include:

- \$7000 for a Coolumb Beach labourer underpaid the minimum hourly rate, and
- \$5800 for a Nambour manager underpaid long service leave entitlements.

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

"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 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 at www.fairwork.gov.au to assist employees and employers.

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

Online resources also include payslip and record-keeping templates, a self-audit checklist and fact sheets.

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.

Page reference No: 4874

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