

## \$21,000 back-pay for Warrnambool employees

2 December 2011

Several workers in Victoria's Warrnambool region have been back-paid a total of \$21,200 following recent intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

The largest recovery was \$9900 for a forklift driver.

The male employee, who worked for the business for more than 10 years, was not paid long service leave and annual leave entitlements on termination.

After a Fair Work inspector contacted the business and explained its obligations, the employee was reimbursed all outstanding entitlements without the need for further action against the employer.

In a separate case, a 20-year-old apprentice tradesman was back-paid \$6000 after an inspector found he was not paid travel allowances from 2009 to 2011.

And a cleaner in his 50s was back-paid \$5300 after he was not paid penalty rates between July, 2008 and December, 2009.

The Fair Work Ombudsman recovered a total of \$7.573 million back-pay for 3556 underpaid workers in Victoria last financial year. Nationally, the Agency recouped \$26.7 million for 17,360 employees.

"It's a fact that some businesses inadvertently breach workplace laws. When we find mistakes, we're here to assist and give practical advice to employers on how to voluntarily fix them," says Fair Work Ombudsman Nicholas Wilson.

"Each of these businesses has now corrected the errors that led to the underpayments and put processes in place to ensure they will not happen again."

Workers or employers seeking support should get in touch with the Fair Work Ombudsman via the website - [www.fairwork.gov.au](http://www.fairwork.gov.au) - or call the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94. A free interpreter service is available on 13 14 50.

The website has a number of tools and resources, including PayCheck Plus and an Award Finder, to assist business-owners calculate the correct pay for their employees.

PayCheck Plus calculates minimum rates of pay per hour, per shift or per week and takes account of payments for overtime, penalty rates and allowances.

An 'Industries' section on the website provides extra, specialised information for employers and employees in the retail, cleaning, clerical, hair and beauty, security, horticulture, fast food and hospitality industries.

Follow the Fair Work Ombudsman on [Twitter @fairwork\\_gov\\_au](https://twitter.com/fairwork_gov_au) ([https://twitter.com/fairwork\\_gov\\_au](https://twitter.com/fairwork_gov_au)).

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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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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.