

Two Geelong workers back-paid almost \$30,000

5 December 2011

Two workers at Geelong in regional Victoria have been back-paid a total of \$29,200 following intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

The largest recovery was \$19,200 for a caretaker.

The 50-year-old female employee complained about being underpaid wages and leave entitlements over the past three years.

After an 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 sign writer in his late 20s was back-paid \$10,000 after he was underpaid the minimum hourly rate for more than 10 years.

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.

“The two Geelong businesses have 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 - or call the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94.

A free interpreter service is available on 13 14 50, and information on the website is translated into 27 different languages.

The website has a number of tools and resources, including PayCheck Plus and an Award Finder, to assist business-owners to 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.

Follow the Fair Work Ombudsman on [Twitter @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

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.