

\$50,000 back-pay for south-western WA workers

10 January 2011

The Fair Work Ombudsman has recently recovered \$52,000 back-pay for a number of workers in south-western WA.

The biggest recovery was \$19,800 for two Dunsborough professionals who were not paid for all hours worked or annual leave entitlements.

After Fair Work inspectors contacted the company and explained its obligations, the business immediately reimbursed the workers \$11,500 and \$8200 respectively.

In a separate case, a Burekup transport worker has been back-paid \$8700 after lodging a complaint that he was not paid for all hours worked or annual leave entitlements.

Similarly, after contact from Fair Work inspectors, the employer paid back all outstanding entitlements.

Other recent recoveries include:

- \$8400 for a Margaret River manager who was not paid annual leave entitlements,
- \$8300 for a Donnybrook wine industry worker who was not paid for all hours worked or annual leave entitlements, and
- \$7000 for a Picton steel worker underpaid annual leave, wages in lieu of notice and who was not paid for all hours worked.

Fair Work Ombudsman Executive Director Michael Campbell says that because the employers fully co-operated and voluntarily rectified their respective contraventions, there will be no further action against the employers.

“We place a strong focus on educating and assisting employers to understand and comply with workplace laws,” he said. “Our first preference is always to assist employers to voluntarily rectify any non-compliance issues.”

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 understand their respective workplace rights and obligations.

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.

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

Employers and employees seeking assistance and further information can also contact the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94 from 8am - 6pm weekdays. For translations call 13 14 50.

Media inquiries:

Ryan Pedler, Senior Adviser, Media & Stakeholder Relations
(03) 9954 2561, 0411 430 902
ryan.pedler@fwo.gov.au

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.