

Northern NSW company director faces court over alleged underpayment of truck drivers

21 January 2011

The Fair Work Ombudsman has launched a prosecution against the former operator of a northern NSW transport company for allegedly underpaying 15 truck drivers almost \$20,000.

Facing court is Colin Alexander Neave, of Terranora.

Mr Neave was the operator, sole director and part-owner of Tweed Heads-based transport company Corporate Consulting (Australia) Pty Ltd before the company went into liquidation in June last year.

Documents lodged in the Federal Magistrates Court in Sydney allege Mr Neave was centrally involved in the company's failure in 2009 to provide the truck drivers with paid rostered days off to which they were entitled.

It is alleged that 15 drivers who transported general freight between various distribution centres in NSW are owed a total of \$19,280 back-pay as a result.

The alleged individual amounts outstanding range from \$253 to \$2187.

Fair Work Ombudsman Executive Director Michael Campbell says the decision to prosecute Mr Neave was made because of the significant amount involved and the employer's failure to rectify the matter.

The Fair Work Ombudsman cannot prosecute Corporate Consulting (Australia) Pty Ltd because the company is in liquidation.

The Fair Work Ombudsman alleges Mr Neave was involved in one breach of workplace law. He faces a maximum potential penalty of \$6600.

The case is listed for a directions hearing on January 27.

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