

## \$63,000 back-pay for Hobart security guards

15 July 2011

The Fair Work Ombudsman has secured a total of \$62,700 back-pay for 100 Hobart security guards who were underpaid.

Fair Work inspectors found the employees had been underpaid their shift allowances between 2006 and 2009.

Fair Work Ombudsman Nicholas Wilson says once inspectors contacted the employer and explained its obligations, each of the workers was promptly reimbursed all outstanding entitlements.

“We acknowledge that accidental breaches of workplace laws do occur, so our preference is always to work with employers to educate them and help them voluntarily rectify any non-compliance issues we identify,” he said.

“The business has now put processes in place to ensure this mistake is not repeated.”

The Fair Work Ombudsman audited 296 security businesses around Australia in 2009-10 as part of a National Campaign and found 154 (52 per cent) were not compliant with workplace law.

Inspectors discovered 83 security businesses had underpaid 1124 employees a total of \$1.18 million, while a further 71 businesses had record-keeping and pay slips contraventions.

As a result, the Fair Work Ombudsman is now conducting follow-up audits of 600 security industry employers nationally, including Tasmanian businesses based in Hobart, Launceston, Devonport, Burnie, Ulverstone and George Town.

The Fair Work Ombudsman has a number of tools and user-friendly resources on its website to assist employees and employers.

A section of the website is devoted to providing information specifically for the security industry at [www.fairwork.gov.au/security](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/security).

Employers or employees seeking assistance or further information can also contact the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94 from 8am-6pm weekdays.

A free interpreter service is available on 13 14 50.

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

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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