

\$24,000 back-pay for Grampians three

21 July 2011

Three workers in Victoria's Grampians region have been back-paid a total of \$23,900 following intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

The largest recovery was \$9400 for an Edenhope retail worker underpaid the minimum hourly rate and not paid penalty rates.

Once a Fair Work inspector contacted the business and explained its obligations, the employee was promptly paid all money owed without the need for further action.

In a separate case, a Horsham manager was back-paid \$7500 when an inspector found the employee was not paid for time worked.

And in Mortlake, a retail worker was reimbursed \$7000 after being underpaid the minimum hourly rate and not paid annual leave entitlements.

Fair Work Ombudsman Nicholas Wilson says all of the businesses have now put processes in place to ensure the mistakes are not repeated.

"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 Fair Work Ombudsman has innovative and user-friendly tools and resources on its website at www.fairwork.gov.au to assist employees and employers.

"We are serious about ensuring regional communities understand their rights and obligations in the workplace," Mr Wilson said.

A series of Best Practice Guides have also been developed by the Fair Work Ombudsman to assist employers make better use of the provisions of the Fair Work Act and better understand other aspects of workplace laws.

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 and information on the website is translated into 27 different languages.

You can also follow the Fair Work Ombudsman on Twitter for important updates.

Page reference No: 4700

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