$200,000 back-pay for workers in Sydney's northern suburbs

16 June 2011

A dozen workers in Sydney's north and north-west suburbs have been back-paid a total of almost $200,000 following intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

The largest recovery was $60,300 for a Macquarie Park executive not paid annual leave entitlements.

Fair Work Ombudsman Executive Director Michael Campbell says once Fair Work inspectors contacted the employer and explained its obligations, the executive was promptly back-paid all money owed.

In a separate case, a St Leonards surveyor received $26,300 after inspectors discovered the worker was not paid annual leave entitlements or penalty rates.

Other recent recoveries include:
- $20,000 for a Bayview kitchen-hand not paid overtime,
- $16,900 for a Chatswood technical officer not paid for two months work,
- $14,200 for a Dural clerk not paid annual leave and long service leave entitlements or pay-in-lieu-of notice,
- $13,700 for a North Sydney consultant not paid penalty rates, annual leave entitlements or for time worked,
- $12,400 for a North Sydney administration officer not paid annual leave entitlements,
- $10,000 for a Pymble labourer underpaid allowances,
- $8700 for a Castle Hill administration officer not paid allowances,
- $6000 for a St Leonards manager unpaid annual leave and long service leave entitlements,
- $5400 for a McGraths Hill forklift driver not paid allowances, and
- $5000 for a Glenorie horticultural worker underpaid penalty rates.

Mr Campbell says each of the businesses has now put processes in place to ensure these 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.

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.

Note: We are unable to provide additional information about the cases listed.

Page reference No: 4904

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