

Regional SA employees back-paid \$31,500

24 June 2011

Three workers in regional South Australia have been back-paid a total of \$31,500 following intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

The largest recovery was \$16,400 for a Saddleworth worker underpaid the minimum hourly rate and overtime entitlements.

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

In a separate case, a Narrung station-hand was reimbursed \$9600 in underpaid overtime entitlements.

And a Murray Bridge animal attendant received \$5500 when inspectors found there had been unauthorised deductions from the worker's pay.

Mr Campbell says each of the businesses has now put processes in place to ensure these mistakes are not repeated.

"The Fair Work Ombudsman is serious about ensuring regional communities understand their rights and obligations in the workplace," he said.

"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.

"It is also important that employees understand they can turn to the Fair Work Ombudsman if they have concerns. Complaints can be made confidentially."

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

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.

The guides cover work and family, consultation and co-operation, individual flexibility arrangements, employing young workers, gender pay equity, small business, workplace privacy, managing underperformance, effective dispute resolution, parental leave and improving workplace productivity in bargaining.

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.

Keep up to date with the Fair Work Ombudsman and updates on Australia's workplace relations laws through [@fairwork_gov_au](https://twitter.com/fairwork_gov_au)  (http://twitter.com/#!/fairwork_gov_au) .

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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.