

Real estate staff among Perth workers to receive \$146,000 back-pay

22 March 2011

A number of workers in Perth have been reimbursed more than \$146,000 after recent investigations by the Fair Work Ombudsman found they were underpaid.

The largest recovery was \$22,800 for a real estate investment manager whose employer had unlawfully made deductions from the employee's wages.

In a separate case, three real estate agents in South Lake were back-paid a total of \$24,000 in outstanding annual leave entitlements.

And in O'Connor a book-keeper was reimbursed \$16,400 after being underpaid annual leave and long service leave.

Other recent recoveries include:

- \$15,000 for a West Perth book-keeper unpaid annual leave,
- \$12,500 for an Osborne Park computer technician not paid annual leave entitlements,
- \$8800 for a Martin cable joiner not paid redundancy entitlements,
- \$8350 for a Bicton veterinary nurse underpaid the minimum hourly rate,
- \$5800 for a Mount Lawley property manager underpaid annual leave,
- \$5700 for a Maddington engineer not paid for annual leave,
- \$5550 for a Subiaco administration officer underpaid annual leave,
- \$5400 for a Mullaloo property sales representative unpaid for time worked,
- \$5300 for an Osborne Park electrical apprentice not paid in lieu of notice, annual leave or for time worked,
- \$5200 for a Wangara field officer not paid redundancy entitlements and,
- \$5100 for a Welshpool fitter not paid annual leave.

Fair Work Ombudsman Executive Director Michael Campbell says that given all employers co-operated with inspectors and voluntarily rectified the underpayments, there will be no further action against the companies involved.

He says that in most cases, the Fair Work Ombudsman does not prosecute employers for inadvertent breaches of workplace laws.

"Our preference is always to work with employers to educate them and help them voluntarily rectify any non-compliance issues," he says.

The Fair Work Ombudsman has a number of tools available on its website - www.fairwork.gov.au - to assist employees and employers to check minimum rates of pay.

Small to medium-sized businesses without human resources staff can also ensure they are better equipped when hiring, managing and dismissing employees by using free template employment documentation available Online.

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

Media inquiries:

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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

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