

Adelaide workers paid nothing for four months

2 May 2011

The operators of an Adelaide company have been fined \$21,750 after they refused to pay two employees anything for four months' full-time work.

Macquarie Business Solutions Pty Ltd, a business broking and property management company based in Wayville, has been fined \$17,750 and its director and senior manager, Joseph Krawczynski, a further \$4000.

The company has also been ordered to back-pay the two underpaid employees a total of \$19,842, plus interest.

The penalties and back-payment Order were imposed in the Federal Magistrates Court in Adelaide following an investigation and prosecution by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

Two full-time trainee salespersons employed by Macquarie Business Solutions were not paid anything for four months work they performed in 2008.

The employees, a man and a woman in their mid-30s, were entitled to be paid \$10,911 and \$8931 respectively in wages, superannuation, annual leave entitlements and a car allowance.

They resigned after their repeated requests for wages were ignored.

Macquarie Business Solutions and Krawczynski also breached workplace laws by failing to keep proper employment records.

In his decision, Federal Magistrate Denys Simpson said: "the breaches were deliberate, not accidental or inadvertent" and observed that there was a need for a penalty to deter others from committing similar breaches.

Fair Work Ombudsman Executive Director Michael Campbell says failing to pay staff their minimum entitlements is a serious matter.

"Successful prosecutions such as this also benefit employers who are complying with workplace laws because it helps them to compete on a level playing field," Mr Campbell said.

Employers or employees seeking assistance should contact the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94 or visit www.fairwork.gov.au. A free interpreter service is available on 13 14 50.

Media inquiries:

Ryan Pedler, Senior Adviser, Media & Stakeholder Relations
(03) 9954 2561, 0411 430 902
ryan.pedler@fwo.gov.au

Page reference No: 4792

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