

\$200,000 back-pay for Perth employees

22 November 2011

Dozens of workers in Perth have been back-paid a total of more than \$200,000 following recent intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

The largest recovery was \$18,700 for a 29-year-old West Perth manager.

The employee, who worked for the company between 2005 and 2010, lodged a complaint with the Fair Work Ombudsman after he was not paid wages in lieu of notice.

After a Fair Work inspector contacted the company and explained its obligations, the employee was promptly reimbursed all money owed without the need for further action against the employer.

Other recent recoveries include:

- \$17,100 for two Joondalup apprentice hairdressers underpaid the minimum hourly rate
- \$16,400 for an O'Connor accountant not paid annual leave and long service leave entitlement
- \$16,200 for a Victoria Park IT worker underpaid annual leave entitlements and not paid for some time worked
- \$16,200 for a West Perth tradesman not paid redundancy
- \$14,200 for a Leederville sales representative not paid redundancy, leave loading entitlements and for some time worked
- \$13,800 for an Applecross sales representative not paid for some time worked
- \$10,500 for an East Perth engineer not paid for some time worked
- \$10,400 for a Wangara electrician not paid annual leave entitlements and for some time worked
- \$9800 for a CBD site supervisor not paid redundancy
- \$9600 for a Bibra Lake sales manager not paid for some time worked
- \$9400 for a CBD IT worker not paid for some time worked
- \$9200 for a Spearwood apprentice tradesman underpaid the minimum hourly rate
- \$8900 for a Welshpool supervisor not paid annual leave entitlements
- \$8800 for a CBD project manager not paid redundancy
- \$7700 for a Thornlie apprentice tradesman underpaid the minimum hourly rate and not paid annual leave entitlements, leave loading and travel allowances
- \$6400 for an Osborne Park tradesman underpaid the minimum hourly rate, \$5900 for a Leederville sales consultant underpaid the minimum hourly rate
- \$5800 for a Karrinyup hairdresser underpaid the minimum hourly rate
- \$5400 for 19 staff at a Fremantle hospitality business underpaid the minimum hourly rate
- \$5400 for a Mullaloo sales representative not paid for some time worked
- \$5400 for a CBD quality assurance manager who was not paid annual leave entitlements and had unauthorised deductions made from wages
- \$5300 for an Osborne Park apprentice tradesman not paid wages in lieu of notice, annual leave entitlements and for some time worked, and
- \$5200 for a South Perth engineer not paid annual leave entitlements, wages in lieu of notice and for some time worked.

The Fair Work Ombudsman recovered a total of \$1.788 million back-pay for 1480 underpaid workers in Western Australia last financial year. Nationally, the Agency recouped a total of \$26.7 million for 17,360 underpaid employees.

"It's a fact that some businesses inadvertently breach workplace laws. When we find mistakes, we're here to assist and give practical advice to employers on how to voluntarily fix them," says Fair Work Ombudsman Nicholas Wilson.

Workers or employers seeking support should get in touch with the Fair Work Ombudsman via the website – www.fairwork.gov.au - or call the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94. A free interpreter service is available on 13 14 50.

The website has a number of tools and resources, including PayCheck Plus and an Award Finder, to assist business-owners to calculate the correct pay for their employees.

PayCheck Plus calculates minimum rates of pay per hour, per shift or per week and takes account of payments for overtime, penalty

rates and allowances.

A section of the website is dedicated to providing information specific to employment of apprentices and trainees.

An 'Industries' section on the website provides extra, specialised information for employers and employees in the retail, cleaning, clerical, hair and beauty, security, horticulture, fast food and hospitality industries.

Free documentation is available Online for employers to use when hiring, managing and dismissing staff, including letters of engagement and probation, timesheet and pay slip templates, leave application forms, a self-audit check list and workplace complaint form.

Follow the Fair Work Ombudsman on [Twitter @fairwork_gov_au](https://twitter.com/fairwork_gov_au) (https://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.