

\$13,000 recovered for Warrnambool and Apollo Bay workers

29 September 2011

Two workers in regional Victoria have been back-paid a total of \$13,000 following intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

The largest underpayment was \$7000 for a Warrnambool personal care worker.

A Fair Work inspector found the 19-year-old female employee had been underpaid the minimum hourly rate over 10 months.

In a separate case, an Apollo Bay shop attendant has been back-paid \$6000 after an inspector found the 58-year-old male worker had been underpaid overtime and laundry allowances over three years.

Fair Work Ombudsman Nicholas Wilson says the businesses have now corrected the errors that led to the underpayments and put processes in place to ensure they do not happen again.

“It’s a fact that some businesses inadvertently breach workplace laws. When we find mistakes, we’re here to help and give practical advice to employers on how to voluntarily fix them,” he said.

The Fair Work Ombudsman provides a single point of contact for people working or running a business in Australia to get accurate and timely information about their workplace rights and obligations.

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 calculate the correct pay for their employees.

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.

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.

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

Media inquiries:

Cameron Jackson, Media Adviser, Media and Stakeholder Relations

0457 924 146

cameron.jackson@fwo.gov.au

Page reference No: 4621

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.