

## \$104,000 back-pay for workers in Melbourne's South-East suburbs

3 December 2012

Workers in Melbourne's South East have been back-paid a total of \$104,300 following recent intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

The largest recovery was \$40,200 for three workers at a Caulfield cleaning industry business underpaid wages and penalty rates for various periods between 2007 and 2012.

The three workers were underpaid amounts of \$17,000, \$13,200 and \$10,000.

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

Other recent recoveries include:

- \$22,100 for 37 workers at a Parkdale security industry business who were underpaid wages and penalty rates,
- \$15,000 for a Narre Warren child care worker underpaid wages between 2007 and 2012,
- \$11,600 for a dental assistant at Dandenong underpaid wages and penalty rates between 2008 and 2011,
- \$8000 for an East Bentleigh technician underpaid annual leave entitlements upon termination of employment, and
- \$7400 for an Oakleigh real estate worker underpaid annual leave entitlements.

Fair Work Ombudsman Nicholas Wilson says when Fair Work inspectors identify a problem and contact a business, most employers check their records, realise a problem has occurred, and fix it immediately.

"When we find mistakes, we're here to assist and give practical advice to employers on how to voluntarily resolve issues," Mr Wilson says.

"These Melbourne businesses have now corrected the errors that led to the underpayments and put processes in place to ensure they will not happen again."

Between July 1, 2009 and 30 September, 2012, the Fair Work Ombudsman recovered a total of \$100.2 million in back-pay for more than 56,000 unpaid workers in Australia.

Since March, 2006, the Fair Work Ombudsman and its predecessor agencies have recouped a total of \$185.5 million for 124,000 workers.

Employers and employees seeking information and advice should visit [www.fairwork.gov.au](http://www.fairwork.gov.au) or call the Infoline on 13 13 94 from 8am-6pm weekdays.

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## Contact us

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Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94

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