

Court action over alleged \$8000 underpayment of tavern employee

06 June 2012

Note: Reference to prosecution in this media release is a general reference to the FWO commencing proceedings for the imposition of civil penalties and should not be taken to be a reference to criminal proceedings.

The Fair Work Ombudsman has launched a prosecution against the operator of a Queensland tavern, alleging it underpaid an employee more than \$8000.

Facing court is Glasshouse Mountains Tavern Pty Ltd, which operates a tavern of the same name in the Sunshine Coast hinterland.

Also facing court is the tavern's part-owner and manager Tammi Maree Pointon, of Caboolture.

Ms Pointon was allegedly involved in underpaying the annual leave and personal leave entitlements of a venue manager at the tavern and making an unauthorised deduction from the employee's final pay in 2011.

It is alleged the employee, a Sunshine Coast hinterland woman, was underpaid a total of \$8638.

The alleged underpayment was discovered last year when the Fair Work Ombudsman investigated a complaint lodged by the employee.

Fair Work Ombudsman Nicholas Wilson says the employer's failure to rectify the alleged underpayment was a key factor in the decision to prosecute.

The Fair Work Ombudsman alleges Ms Pointon was involved in Glasshouse Mountains Tavern Pty Ltd committing three breaches of workplace laws.

Ms Pointon faces maximum penalties per breach of \$6600 and the company faces maximum penalties per breach of \$33,000.

The Fair Work Ombudsman is also seeking a Court Order for the company to rectify the alleged underpayment of the employee.

The case is listed for mention in the Federal Magistrates Court in Brisbane on June 20.

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.

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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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