

## 136 Alice Springs hospitality staff share almost \$50,000 back-pay

8 March 2012

The Fair Work Ombudsman has recovered almost \$50,000 back-pay for 136 hospitality workers in Alice Springs.

Fair Work inspectors recently door-knocked 11 hospitality businesses in Alice Springs to ensure their compliance with record-keeping and time and wages obligations.

Six of the 11 were fully compliant, while five businesses recorded contraventions relating to the underpayment of minimum hourly rates of pay and penalty rates.

A further nine hospitality businesses randomly audited in Katherine were all found to be fully compliant with workplace laws.

The Fair Work Ombudsman targeted the hospitality sector for attention following concerns raised with the Agency's Darwin office about potential non-compliance.

Businesses scrutinised included pubs, taverns and bars; cafes, restaurants and take-away food outlets; accommodation houses and clubs.

Early last year the Fair Work Ombudsman recovered more than \$39,000 for over 250 Darwin hospitality workers after scrutinising hospitality businesses on Mitchell St and at the Wharf Precinct.

In late 2010, a Darwin hospitality worker was reimbursed more than \$46,000 after Fair Work inspectors discovered she had been underpaid her minimum hourly rate and penalty rates over a number of years.

And 15 Darwin caravan park employees were back-paid a total of more than \$41,000 last year after the Fair Work Ombudsman ran a targeted campaign focused on local caravan parks.

The Fair Work Ombudsman recently launched a targeted education campaign in the Northern Territory aimed at ensuring compliance within the hair and beauty sector.

The Fair Work Ombudsman's pro-active, targeted campaign activity returned \$96,522 to underpaid workers in the Top End last financial year.

The tally was part of a total of \$273,000 recouped for 542 Territorians who had been underpaid at work in 2010-11.

The Fair Work Ombudsman has a special page on its website with information tailored to assist employers in the hospitality sector.

Employers or employees alike 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.

Campaign report: [Final NT Hospitality Report \(PDF 128KB\) \(www.fairwork.gov.au/ArticleDocuments/714/Final-NT-Hospitality-Report.pdf.aspx\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/ArticleDocuments/714/Final-NT-Hospitality-Report.pdf.aspx)

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## Contact us

Fair Work Online: [www.fairwork.gov.au](http://www.fairwork.gov.au)

Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94

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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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