

\$55,000 back-pay for Moreton Bay workers

19 March 2012

Workers in the Moreton Bay region of Queensland have been back-paid a total of \$55,700 following recent intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

The largest recovery was \$11,000 for a salesman at Burpengary.

The male employee lodged a complaint with Fair Work Ombudsman after he was underpaid commissions on sales.

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

Other recent recoveries include:

- \$10,000 for a Deception Bay delivery driver underpaid the minimum hourly rate and penalty rates,
- \$8300 for a Morayfield horticultural worker not paid penalty rates over two years,
- \$7500 for a 19-year-old shop assistant at Caboolture underpaid the minimum hourly rate,
- \$7100 for a plant operator on Bribie Island underpaid annual leave and long service leave entitlements,
- \$6000 for a shop assistant at Caboolture underpaid the minimum hourly rate and penalty rates, and
- \$5800 for a Morayfield bus driver underpaid long service leave entitlements on termination.

Fair Work Ombudsman Nicholas Wilson says that 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.

“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,” he said.

“These Moreton Bay businesses have now corrected the errors that led to the underpayments and put processes in place to ensure they will not happen again.”

The Fair Work Ombudsman recovered a total of \$6.082 million in back-pay for 5142 underpaid workers in the Queensland last financial year. Nationally, the Agency recouped \$26.7 million for 17,360 employees.

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.

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