

\$11,300 back-pay for Goondiwindi worker

22 May 2012

A worker at Goondiwindi in the border region of Queensland has been back-paid \$11,300 following recent intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

The clerical worker - aged in her 50s - lodged a complaint with the Fair Work Ombudsman after she was underpaid the minimum hourly rate for four years.

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

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.

Fair Work Ombudsman Nicholas Wilson says when Fair Work inspectors identify an issue 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 help and give practical advice to employers on how to voluntarily fix them," Mr Wilson said.

"The Goondiwindi business involved has now corrected the errors that led to the underpayments and put processes in place to ensure they will not happen again."

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.

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.

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, vehicle, horticulture, fast food and hospitality industries.

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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.