

NSW Central Coast workers back-paid \$43,000

24 October 2012

Workers on the NSW Central Coast region have been back-paid a total of \$43,400 following recent intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

The largest recovery was \$11,200 for a trainee real estate agent at Gosford who was underpaid wages and commissions over a five-month period in 2010.

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

Other recent recoveries include:

- \$8900 for a real estate agent at Wyong underpaid commissions over a three-month period,
- \$6300 for a Wyong laundry assistant underpaid the minimum hourly wage,
- \$5700 for an accountant at The Entrance underpaid annual leave entitlements upon termination of employment,
- \$5700 for a young tradesperson at Gosford underpaid wages over an eight-month period, and
- \$5600 for a tradesperson at Gosford underpaid the minimum hourly wage and penalty rates between 2010 and 2012.

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 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 or call the Infoline on 13 13 94 from 8am-6pm weekdays.

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Contact us

Fair Work Online: www.fairwork.gov.au

Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94

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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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