

## Regulator recoups \$90,000 for workers in Sydney's South and South West

22 April 2013

Workers in Sydney's South and South West have been back-paid a total of \$90,000 following recent intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

The biggest recovery was \$41,400 for six administration workers at a Liverpool healthcare industry business underpaid wages and penalty rates between 2009 and 2012.

Some of the workers had not been paid wages they were entitled to for trial work periods.

Fair Work Ombudsman Group Manager, Michael Campbell, said employers must pay employees for all hours worked, including work during trial periods.

"It may be appropriate for employers to ask prospective employees to quickly demonstrate a skill needed for the job, but when this turns into work being performed for a number of hours, the worker should be paid," Mr Campbell said.

Other recent recoveries in Sydney's South and South West include:

- \$30,200 for 10 workers at a Condell Park business underpaid wages, overtime, and penalty rates over a five-month period in 2012, and
- \$18,400 for a Sans Souci fast food worker underpaid minimum wages between 2009 and 2013.

In all cases, after Fair Work inspectors contacted the businesses and explained their obligations the employees were reimbursed all money owed without the need for further action against the employer.

"When we find mistakes, we're here to assist and give practical advice to employers on how to voluntarily resolve issues," Mr Campbell said.

"These Sydney businesses have now corrected the errors that led to the underpayments and put processes in place to ensure they will not happen again."

Employers and employees seeking advice on their rights and obligations should visit [www.fairwork.gov.au](http://www.fairwork.gov.au) or contact 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 staff and for employees to check they are receiving their full entitlements.

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## Contact us

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