

January 2015

Court rejects restaurant's bizarre demand to rectify underpayment of casual employee
<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150130-sona-peaks-penalty-presser-e>

30 Jan 2015

When a Bendigo restaurant was asked to back-pay a casual employee it had short-changed, it refused to do so unless the worker provided a statement that she had been "kidnapped" and "forced to work against her will".

Company fined \$24,000 over unpaid work scheme (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150129-crocmedia-penalty>)

29 Jan 2015

A Melbourne media company has been penalised \$24,000 for implementing an unpaid work arrangement that led to two young employees being underpaid thousands of dollars.

National advertising company and director fined \$100,000 over underpayments
<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150129-ohmedia-penalty-presser>

29 Jan 2015

A national advertising company and its director have been penalised a total of \$100,000 after failing to pay dozens of workers in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide any wages for work they performed.

Heavy price for ignoring back-pay request (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150128-absynthe-penalty-presser>)

28 Jan 2015

A restaurant on Queensland's Gold Coast has been penalised a total of \$15,300 for refusing to reimburse a teenage apprentice who had been underpaid.

Mid-North Coast earmarked for attention (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150127-nsw-mid-north-coast-regional-campaign>)

27 Jan 2015

The Fair Work Ombudsman will visit the NSW Mid-North Coast over the next few weeks to help raise awareness among employers of their obligations under federal workplace laws.

Tasmanian blueberry, strawberry farm visits (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150127-tas-strawberry-and-blueberry-farm-audits>)

27 Jan 2015

Fair Work Ombudsman inspectors will visit blueberry and strawberry farms in Tasmania in February to ensure seasonal workers are being paid correctly.

Employer to face court for allegedly paying Italian backpacker just \$1.35 an hour

(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150122-backpacker-paid-less-than-2-an-hour>)

22 Jan 2015

A young Italian backpacker was allegedly paid less than \$2 an hour while working in Tasmania for an employer who recruited working holidaymakers wanting to stay in Australia for two years.

Restaurant promised Korean cook \$52,000 a year pay-packet, but only dished up \$15,000

(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150121-paul-holly-eu-presser>)

21 Jan 2015

A Sydney restaurant which agreed to pay \$52,000 a year to a cook recruited from South Korea under the 457 skilled visa program paid him just \$15,000 over 13 months.

Teenage Chinese massage therapist allegedly underpaid \$21,000 after being convinced to work as contractor (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150120-lus-healthcare-litigation>)

20 Jan 2015

A teenage Chinese massage therapist was underpaid more than \$21,000 after being persuaded to work as an independent contractor instead of an employee, the Fair Work Ombudsman alleges.

\$34,400 back-pay for Goldfields workers (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150119-goldfields-recoveries>)

19 Jan 2015

A number of workers in Victoria's Goldfields region have been back-paid \$34,400 in wages and entitlements following recent intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

Court action over failure to pay compensation (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150116-aaa-litigation>)

16 Jan 2015

A national glass repair business is facing Court for allegedly ignoring a Fair Work Commission order to compensate an employee who had been unfairly dismissed.

\$20,000 back-pay for Indian restaurant employees (<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150115-gurukirpa-ji-hot-million-presser>)

15 Jan 2015

The former operator of an Indian restaurant in North-East Victoria has agreed to back-pay two cooks more

than \$20,000, following an investigation by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

[Canberra business faces legal action over failure to pay compensation \(http://www.fair-work.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150114-hw-carpentry-solutions-litigation\)](http://www.fair-work.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150114-hw-carpentry-solutions-litigation)

14 Jan 2015

A Canberra carpentry business is facing court for allegedly ignoring a Fair Work Commission order to compensate an employee who had been unfairly dismissed.

[Results of retail campaign in Western Australia \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150113-retail-campaign-wa\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150113-retail-campaign-wa)

13 Jan 2015

More than three-quarters of retail businesses in Western Australia are fully compliant with payment laws, random checks by the Fair Work Ombudsman have revealed.

[Results of retail campaign in South Australia \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150113-retail-campaign-sa\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150113-retail-campaign-sa)

13 Jan 2015

Almost three-quarters of retail businesses in South Australia are fully compliant with payment laws, random checks by the Fair Work Ombudsman have revealed.

[Top End retailers urged to check pay rates \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150113-retail-campaign-nt\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150113-retail-campaign-nt)

13 Jan 2015

Just over half of retail businesses in the Northern Territory are fully compliant with payment laws, random checks by the Fair Work Ombudsman have revealed.

[Fair Work Ombudsman joins Midsumma to help raise awareness of unlawful discrimination \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150112-fwo-at-midsumma\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150112-fwo-at-midsumma)

12 Jan 2015

The Fair Work Ombudsman will participate in this year's Midsumma Festival in Melbourne to help raise awareness of unlawful workplace discrimination.

[\\$100,000 penalty follows 'particularly disturbing behaviour' involving vulnerable Chinese chef \(http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150109-ecff-penalty\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150109-ecff-penalty)

9 Jan 2015

The operators of a Tasmanian take-away restaurant have been fined a total of \$100,000 after engaging in 'particularly disturbing behaviour' in relation to a vulnerable foreign chef.

[Petrol station operator "on notice" over \\$60,000 underpayment of console operators](#)

(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150108-wagga-petrol-station>)

8 Jan 2015

The operator of two petrol stations at Wagga, in regional NSW, has been formally cautioned by the Fair Work Ombudsman after short-changing dozens of console operators.

(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150107-vic-retail-bakeries>)

7 Jan 2015

Retail bakeries in Victoria need to pay greater attention to employee pay rates, the Fair Work Ombudsman said today.

(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150106-190k-fines-exploiting-trolley-collectors>)

6 Jan 2015

Trolley collection providers who exploited a dozen overseas workers pushing trolleys at a suburban shopping centre have been fined more than \$190,000.

(<http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/archived-media-releases/2015-media-releases/january-2015/20150105-dont-get-ripped-off-this-harvest-season>)

5 Jan 2015

The Fair Work Ombudsman has issued a warning to growers, hostel owners and labour hire contractors that it will not tolerate the deliberate exploitation of backpackers and seasonal workers this summer.

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