



## McDonald's pay packet audit an Australian first

The Fair Work Ombudsman and McDonald's Australia have embarked on a new national initiative designed to ensure employee pay packets for McDonald's 85,000-strong national workforce are accurate.

McDonald's, in collaboration with the Fair Work Ombudsman, has set up a self-audit process to review about 8500 pay packets and correct any issues it may find.

The review is in line with McDonald's goal of being an employer of choice for young people and operating its business ethically.

Fair Work Ombudsman Nicholas Wilson has welcomed the company's pro-active approach.

"We congratulate McDonald's for showing corporate responsibility to its thousands of young and casual workers and showing leadership to the rest of the franchising industry," he said.

"Here is a company which sees more profit in great relationships with its staff – and part of building a great relationship is being able to say to workers that they have been paid every single cent they are entitled to.

"Recognising that problems may sometimes occur with payment of correct wages and entitlements, McDonald's will be asking its franchise holders to pay careful attention to the minimum hourly rate for employees under 16 and meal allowances for overtime shifts.

"This is a terrific model for other companies, large and small, who want to be seen as a great place to work for young employees or people looking to gain foundation skills for their careers."

McDonald's stores participating in the review will be selected from both metropolitan and regional sites throughout Australia in consultation with the Fair Work Ombudsman.

Over the next three months, the company will review time and wages records for the pay period from October 1-14, 2009 and the same period in 2010.

McDonald's is undertaking the task voluntarily and has agreed to immediately correct any underpayments it might discover.

Mr Wilson says all McDonald's employees have been advised of the program via the company's intranet site.

All McDonald's staff have also been invited to contact a workplace relations hotline should there be a need to report any alleged underpayment of wages or entitlements.

McDonald's will conduct the wages review as part of a Pro-active Compliance Deed it has signed with the Fair Work Ombudsman.

A report on the outcome of the review is expected by the end of August.

As part of the Deed, McDonald's acknowledges that there are opportunities for continuous improvement in relation to its workplace practices.

Under the Deed – available at [www.fairwork.gov.au](http://www.fairwork.gov.au) – McDonald's accepts responsibility for developing systems and processes to maintain ongoing compliance with Commonwealth workplace laws.

Employers or employees seeking assistance on workplace relations laws can contact the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94 from 8am-6pm weekdays or visit the website.

An 'Industries' section on the Fair Work Ombudsman's website provides information specifically tailored for employers and workers in the fast-food industry.



## POLICE REPORT

### Police investigate stabbing death – Wagga Wagga

Wagga Wagga Police have renewed appeals for information after the stabbing death of a 56-year-old Ashmont man on Sunday. About 6.15pm, a group of at least four men forced their way into the Marshall Street home of the man where he was fatally stabbed. His 17-year-old son was also stabbed and has undergone surgery at Wagga Wagga Base Hospital. Forensic investigators are examining the scene of the stabbing and police have conducted an extensive canvass of the area. Police have released descriptions of three men who might be able to assist with inquiries. The first man has been described as approximately 180cm tall and of thin build. When he was last seen, this man was wearing a dark hooded top, dark track pants and a dark cap. He was also carrying a knife similar to a bowie knife.

The second man has been described as 185-190cm tall and of solid build. When he was last seen he was wearing a white hooded top, with a dark cap. He is approximately 18 to 19 years old. The third man appeared to be significantly shorter than the other males in the group. Wagga Wagga Local Area Command Crime Manager, Detective Inspector Rod Smith said it is believed that there are two further offenders who have only been described as wearing dark-coloured hooded jackets, baseball caps and dark pants. "All the males involved have been described to us as possibly being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander appearance," Detective Inspector Smith said. "It is important that anyone who might know the identity of those in the group contacts Wagga Wagga Police via Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000. All information will be treated in strict confidence."

### Man being assessed after barricade ends – Lalor Park

A 44-year-old man has been taken for assessment after a barricade at a home in Lalor Park overnight. Police were called to the Northcott Road house about 11.15pm on Sunday (1 May) after reports of a person being held against their will. Specialist police, including negotiators, attended as a part of an operation to resolve the situation peacefully. The Lalor Park man was taken into police custody about 5am yesterday without incident. A search of the house found the man was the only occupant and inquiries into the circumstances leading up to the incident are continuing.

### Women robbed, one injured, after stopping to assist - Leichhardt

Two women have been robbed, and one has suffered a knife wound, after being robbed by two people who they stopped to assist in Sydney's inner west. About 8.15pm on Sunday, two women, aged 21 and 22, were travelling in a vehicle down Albert Street, Leichhardt, when they noticed a man and a woman at the side of the road flagging them down. They stopped to assist, at which time the man and woman entered the rear seat of the vehicle, and threatened them with a knife. A struggle ensued, during which the 22-year-old

woman received lacerations to her hand. The offenders stole a handbag, some cash, and personal items from the two women before they were disturbed by witnesses and ran from the scene.

They were last seen running west on Albert Street. Police from Leichhardt Local Area Command are appealing for assistance to help locate the man and woman involved. The woman is described as being of Pacific Islander appearance, aged in her mid 20's, about 160cm tall, with a thin build, acne on her face, long dark hair, and she was wearing a hooded jumper and tracksuit pants. The man is described as having a dark complexion, aged in his mid 20's, of a thin build, with some facial hair, and he was wearing a dark coloured cap, hooded jumper and tracksuit pants.

Any witnesses that haven't already spoken to police or anyone who believes they may have information that can assist the investigation should contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

### Man charged after alleged armed robbery of pizza delivery man - Orange

A man will appear in court today following an alleged armed robbery of a pizza delivery man in the state's Central West on the weekend. About 7.10pm (Saturday 20 April), a 19-year-old man was making a delivery to an address on Gardiner Road in Orange. It is alleged a man armed with a knife approached the teenager and took the pizzas from him without paying.

After returning to his vehicle, police allege the man again threatened the teenager with the knife and demanded he get out of the car. The man then allegedly attempted to start the vehicle however this failed and he left the scene on foot. Detectives attached to Canobolas Local Area Command have been investigating the incident. About 1.30pm yesterday (1 May) officers attended a house on Moad Street in Orange and arrested a 29-year-old man following a short foot pursuit.

He was taken to Orange Police Station where he was charged with aggravated take motor vehicle with assault/person on board and steal from person.

### Woman charged after alleged domestic stabbing - Wetherill Park

A man is in hospital and a woman has been charged following an alleged stabbing in Sydney's south west on Sunday night.

About 8.20pm, police were called to a house in Coleridge Road, Wetherill Park, following reports that a 33-year-old man had been stabbed.

Police and ambulance paramedics attended, and the man was conveyed to Westmead Hospital with a single stab wound to the chest. He is currently in a critical condition undergoing surgery. A 32-year-old woman, who is the man's de facto partner, was arrested at the scene and taken to Fairfield Police Station where she was subsequently charged with recklessly cause grievous bodily harm. A court date is yet to be set. Two children were also at home during the time of the incident and are in the care of a family member.

**ANY PERSON WHO CAN ASSIST SHOULD CONTACT  
CRIME STOPPERS ON 1800 333 000**