

# ACTUS WORKPLACE LAWYERS

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The Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) has announced that it recovered a record \$532 million in unpaid wages and entitlements for 384,000 workers in the 2021-22 financial year. The amount was more than three times the record amount recovered in the previous financial year. In the 2021-22 year, the FWO filed a record 137 claims in courts, almost double the number of the previous year.

The FWO currently has around 50 investigations underway into large corporations, including some of Australia's largest companies.

Financial penalties of up to \$666,000 for corporations and \$133,200 for individuals apply for failing to pay employees their correct entitlements. Back-pay for up to six years can also be ordered.

Actus Workplace Lawyers can assist employers with confidential and privileged legal advice on compliance matters including award coverage, award classifications, award entitlements, the National Employment Standards, long service leave laws, record-keeping obligations and common law set-off clauses in employment contracts. Other relevant services include reviewing payroll rules, conducting payroll audits, liaising with the FWO and other regulators and representing employers in court proceedings.

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