

SWORN STATEMENT OF [REDACTED]

I, [REDACTED] of Adelaide in the State of South Australia say on oath/affirm as follows:

Background

1. I am the business owner of [REDACTED]
2. My brother and myself took over the business over 20 years ago and are still running the business at the original premises at [REDACTED].
3. The company has been a member of the Restaurant & Catering Association for approximately 20 years.
4. I have worked in the hospitality industry for 24 years.

Staffing Arrangements and weekly operating hours

5. The company trades/operating times as follows:-
Mon - Fri lunch 12.00pm - 3.00pm
dinner 5.30pm to late
Sat - Sun dinner 5.30pm to late
6. The company employs 14 full-time staff, 3 permanent part time staff and 20 casual staff.

Trading concerns

7. We have experienced a considerable drop in our final profit figures. This is caused by our current economy which has seen dramatic drop in spending. We are still getting diners on our chairs but diners are more aware of their spending per head. We are still needing to have the number of staff members to accommodate our dining numbers.

8. Labour costs has impacted significantly on our profit margins. The percentage being over 45%.
9. We opened over the 2015 Easter break which three out of the four days were Public Holidays. This meant we needed to pay penalty rates. We saw a healthy trade over these days but it was unprofitable once we paid the wages. Due to this we will not be opening any further public holidays. Another concern is the half day public holiday on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. In the past we always traded on these days, as it gave us the opportunity to run our stock down instead of throwing it away, which eliminated wastage costs to the business. The 2014 Christmas season we opted to close on both occasions. It was with regret but we were left with no other choice as it was not going to be cost efficient to us to open for trade due to the half day public holidays rates applied. It saw us having to dispose of stock costing the business money.
10. Other staff expenses that hugely impacts our business is workers compensation premiums, payroll tax etc.

Modern Award Problems

11. In the Modern Restaurant Industry Award we consider Public Holiday rates restrict our business from trading productively.
12. The proposed reductions in penalty rates and other changes to the Modern Award would make our business more productive.
13. For example, If our casual employees that we employ, if the 10% late night penalties after 10PM and 15% after midnight were abolished, it would enable us to employ further casual staff members.

Signature of deponent

Name of witness

Address of witness

Capacity of witness

To be completed by witness:

I certify the following matters concerning the making of this sworn statement by the person who made it:

- I saw the face of the person ; and
- I have known the person for over 15 years.

Signature of witness

Dated: _____

26/6/15