

*Fair Work Act 2009*  
FAIR WORK COMMISSION

s. 156 - 4 yearly review of modern awards

AM2017/40

**4 YEARLY REVIEW OF MODERN AWARDS – HAIR AND BEAUTY  
INDUSTRY AWARD 2010 – PENALTY RATES**

**WITNESS STATEMENT OF RACHEL PIERRE HUMBERT**

I, Rachel Pierre Humbert, of [REDACTED], in Victoria, hairdresser,  
STATE as follows:

**Qualifications**

1. I have a Certificate 111 in hairdressing. I completed a three-year apprenticeship in around 2006.
2. I worked at a range of different salons in Victoria during my apprenticeship. I would also undertake coursework. The coursework arrangements differed depending on what was arranged with the salon I was working in at the time. The coursework was one day per week during some periods or one week per month during other periods.
3. I was earning around \$195 NET per week during my apprenticeship. I don't think I could have survived financially if I wasn't living at home with my parents.
4. My apprenticeship period was challenging. I was constantly busy attending work or training and had to use public transport to travel significant distances. I often ended up doing training or study late at night.

**Employment**

5. I have worked as a hairdresser continuously since 2006 aside from one year I spent working for Greenpeace.
6. I currently work as a casual employee at the Hair Station – Casey Central which is located in Narre Warren. I have worked at this salon for the last 18 months.

7. I normally work 32 hours per week and work from Monday to Friday and then on Sunday. I currently work from 10am to 3pm on Sunday. I don't work on public holidays.

### **Penalty rates**

8. I'm opposed to any reduction to the current award penalty rates for hairdressers. The current conditions should be improved – we should not be moving backwards.
9. Many hairdressers I know are struggling to make ends meet at the moment particularly those with family responsibilities.
10. I don't understand why ~~our trade is treated less seriously by the public than other trades like builders or plumbers.~~ We do the same type of training as ~~these trades~~ such as builders or plumbers and have a challenging work environment just as they do – ~~but everyone assumes we should earn dramatically less as hairdressers.~~