

REMINDER — INCREASE TO MINIMUM WAGE

MJSP writes to remind clients that the Australian Fair Pay Commission's (AFPC) third Wage Setting Decision will be effective from **1 October 2007**. Increases apply to both the Federal Minimum Wage and Australian Pay and Classification Scales. These increases apply only to those employers and employees covered by WorkChoices.

MJSP clients who are covered by WorkChoices must ensure their employees are paid at a rate that is at least equal to the relevant award Pay Scale or Federal Minimum Wage, as increased by the AFPC's wage-setting decisions.

The decision means an increase of approximately \$10.25 per week (\$0.27 per hour) for Pay Scales up to \$700 per week. For Pay Scales above \$700 per week an increase of approximately \$5.30 (\$0.14 per hour) applies. Employers can obtain Pay Scales with the new rates for their relevant award on the WorkChoices website: www.workchoices.gov.au

The decision also increases the Federal Minimum Wage from \$13.47 to \$13.74 per hour, bringing the weekly rate to \$522.12. It is important to note that if an employer's award or agreement wage rate is less than the adult minimum wage, the rate of \$13.74 must be paid. Junior employees receive a percentage of the adult minimum wage rate according to their age.

For further information on how the AFPC wage increases should be applied to your employees, please contact Emma Howse at emma@mjsp.com.au or on (07) 3839 1233.