



B Lab Statement on Lacerda Diniz Sena's B Corp Certification

B Lab's independent Standards Advisory Council has rendered the following decision and guidance regarding eligibility for B Corp Certification for companies providing tax advisory services:

"Companies in the tax advisory industry are eligible for B Corp Certification if they are able to confirm that their tax philosophy, used to provide services and recommendations to clients, aligns with the company specific principles listed in B Lab's framework, specifically, 1) the tax advice provided appropriately reflects the actual amount of income generated by the client over time; and, 2) the tax advice provided to a client for a jurisdiction appropriately reflects the actual operations of the client in that jurisdiction."

Lacerda Diniz Sena Advogados is required to disclose a summary of how it complies with the above requirements as a part of its B Corp Certification. For more information on the review process, please refer to B Lab's position statement on Companies that Provide Tax Advisory Services and B Corp Certification [here](#).

Summary of Company

Lacerda is a law firm located in Brazil that offers end-to-end consulting for small and medium sized companies. The company's Tax Consulting services make up approximately 27% of the company's total revenue. Their fees are charged according to the nature of each consultancy based on three factors:

1. Success: Fees charged based on the percentage of success as a result of identified tax opportunities (tax debts). Such fees are charged in the generation of economic benefit to the client, which can be understood as "economic benefit", tax compensations, reduction of tax liabilities, cash reimbursement of the tax credit and the constitution of deferred assets originated by the credit.
2. Punctual: Fees charged punctually for the execution of a tax consultancy project, such as fees earned for carrying out tax planning, tax opinions, requesting and monitoring special regimes with government bodies
3. Fixed Monthly: Fees earned according to the monthly legal aid contract to meet demands such as tax consultations and opinions, tax simulations and other daily tax demands from clients.

Lacerda's Policies and Practices

In alignment with the requirements and principles stated in B Lab's position statement for companies that provide tax advisory services, Lacerda has a philosophy statement for the tax



advice that they provide to their clients and their own engagement with governments and tax regulators, which has been shared with all their employees. The philosophy statement reads as follows:

Lacerda's Tax Philosophy Statement

"Lacerda is proud to be a Certified B Corporation, and as part of that commitment and in recognition of the role that taxes play in contributing to a healthy society, we use our professional judgment to provide advice on tax positions.

With multiple potential interpretations that accurately reflect the client's revenues and operations in each jurisdiction for which the client seeks our advice based on the details of the client's revenues and operations provided to us, and we do not advise clients to take a position, unless we believe it has at least a reasonable basis to be sustained by applicable tax authorities.

If a client takes a tax position despite our advice to the contrary, we reserve the right to stop work and dismiss that client. We maintain compliance with this policy through regular training of our employees, associates and partners, internal conduct policies, documentation of engagement with our customers and customer retention analyses."

Company policies and practices for risk mitigation

Lacerda's tax consultancy services are fully subject to the rules of OAB Statute and the company and has implemented a Code of Conduct in accordance with the Code of Ethics and Discipline of the Brazilian Bar Association (Law No. 8,906/94 and respective CFOAB Resolution No. 02/15), as well as the National Anti-Corruption Policy established by Law No. 12,846/13 (Anti-Corruption Law). In addition, their Code of Conduct explicitly prohibits engagement in any illegal acts including tax avoidance, money laundering and other acts that may constitute illicit practices or corruption.

To mitigate these risks, Lacerda has adopted the following best practices:

1. Compliance with Current Legislation
 - a. The company helps their clients fully comply with tax, labor and regulatory standards, avoiding structure or practices that could be interpreted as artificial or fraudulent. The company works to prevent risks through regular internal and external audits, in addition to offering ongoing consultancy to ensure that all operations comply with the legislation.
2. Continuous Training and Qualification



- a. Lacerda constantly invests in training and updating their employees, partners and associates on the best practices in tax and financial compliance. The company conducts regular training to identify and report suspicious activity, keeping everyone involved aware of current laws and regulations against tax evasion, money laundering and other financial crimes
3. Transparency and Ethics Policy
 - a. The company has adopted a clear policy of transparency and ethics, which includes reporting suspicious activities to authorities competent when necessary. The company encourages a culture of accountability, where each employee understands the essential role they play in maintaining the integrity and trust that guide the company's actions in market
4. Preventative and Strategic Consulting
 - a. Lacerda offers preventative consultancy which allows companies and clients to plan their tax operations efficiently and within legal limits while reducing exposure to risks and avoiding the need for corrective measures at advanced stages. The company's approach aims to guide strategic decisions that combine tax efficiency with strict compliance with legislation.

Government affairs and lobbying

Lacerda claims they have never faced litigation or penalties related to tax avoidance advice, nor offers services to companies operating in low-tax jurisdictions. The company also shared they are not involved in any lobbying or advocacy activities. Lacerda's Code of Conduct includes a stance against lobbying public bodies or government representatives to influence decisions for the benefit of clients.

B Lab's Public Complaints Process

Any party may submit a complaint about a current B Corp through [B Lab's Public Complaint Process](#). Grounds for complaint include:

1. Intentional misrepresentation of practices, policies, and/or claimed outcomes during the [certification process](#), or
2. Breach of the core values articulated in our [Declaration of Interdependence](#) within the B Corp Community.