

# Worshipful Company of Tax Advisers

## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS

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## Code of Conduct for Members

- 1) The purpose of the WCTA is to advance its objects as set out in its Royal Charter, which are
  - to promote the development and advancement of the science, art and practice of advising on taxation and related subjects,
  - to encourage the advancement of knowledge of taxation and related subjects for the benefit of the public,
  - to afford means of professional and social intercourse and fellowship and the exchange of information between members of the Company, those who practise taxation, and those who benefit from their services,
  - to provide support and relief to necessitous members and other tax advisers and to support and participate in such charitable activities as shall be considered appropriate for the Company,
  - to encourage education in matters relating to the profession and practice of taxation,
  - to foster recognition of the honourable profession of tax adviser,
  - to promote support and encourage standards of excellence, integrity and honourable practice in conducting the profession of tax adviser and aid organisations connected with such profession,
  - to participate with other Companies and Guilds of the City of London; and
  - to support the Lord Mayor, Shrievalty, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of London.On their admittance to the Company, Freemen promise to support and assist the WCTA to achieve these purposes (the "Primary Aims").
- 2) The Company comprises Liverymen, Freemen, Honorary Liverymen and Honorary Freemen (together the "Members" and each a "Member"). Members delegate authority to the Court to advance the Primary Aims as the Court and its Officers see fit.
- 3) Each Member shall abide by the declaration and promise made on his or her admittance to the WCTA as a Freeman as follows: *"You will be true to our Sovereign Lady The Queen, her lawful heirs and successors. You will do all within your power to maintain the independence and traditions of the City of London, and to establish and maintain the reputation of the Worshipful Company of Tax Advisers. You will be obedient to the Master and Wardens of the Company, and observe and keep the lawful*

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*Ordinances and orders of the Company from time to time. You will support the charitable objectives of the Company and contribute to such benevolent or other funds as it shall maintain and use your best endeavours to attend the formal gatherings and social functions of the Company, and you shall as soon as practicable apply to the Court of Aldermen of this City to become of its Freedom."*

- 4) The WCTA expects all Members to uphold the reputation of the Company and our Royal Charter as well as the reputation of the profession of tax advisers, and to abide by our Ordinances and Regulations. Standards of conduct are necessary to achieve and maintain the highest professional standards.
- 5) Members shall not act contrary to the provisions or 'spirit' of the Charter (and other governing documents of the Company), including complying with such policies as the Court, as the governing body of the Company, may issue from time to time.
- 6) Members shall act in good faith toward the WCTA and powers exercisable by the Members under the Company's governing documents shall be exercised in good faith in the interests of the WCTA.
- 7) Members shall exercise their professional skill and judgement to the best of their ability and must act in all matters towards their clients, employers and all others with whom their work is connected in an honourable and ethical way in keeping with these high professional standards.
- 8) Members shall treat their fellow Members, colleagues, clients and others with whom they have dealings in their capacity as Members fairly and with respect and honesty.
- 9) Members shall act without bias, without vested interest and in accordance with the established rules of behaviour appropriate for the circumstances and, above all, in keeping with the customs and standards of behaviour expected by the WCTA. Sources of potential conflicts of interest shall be declared, where possible, in advance of their arising.
- 10) Members shall ensure that their conduct (and the conduct of any guests they may entertain at Company events) is not damaging to the good name and reputation of the WCTA, nor its effective administration by the Court.
- 11) Members (and any guests they may entertain at Company events) shall treat employees, volunteers and guests of the WCTA (and the employees, volunteers and guests of other organisations and groups with which the WCTA is involved from time to time) with respect and courtesy at all times.
- 12) Each Member shall abide by this Code of Conduct. Failure to abide by any of the principles above may result in the Court taking action to investigate and/or propose disciplinary action to a WCTA Court Meeting, such as a resolution to remove the Member or Members in question.

18 December 2018