

BDB Law

DU-BALADAD AND ASSOCIATES

MEMBER FIRM OF

wts global

TAX • LEGAL • CONSULTING



BDB Law
DU-BALADAD AND ASSOCIATES

**Who We are
and What We
Stand For**

Over the years
our passion keeps
burning and moves
us to provide better
and more efficient
services.

Our Practice

We have proven our expertise in taxation and corporate law in more than a decade of our firm's practice in this domain. We continue to earn our reputation for excellence through our philosophy of "total client care" service approach, rendered with a high degree of professionalism.

We exert a consistent effort to understand and appreciate the intricacies and uniqueness of our clients' businesses to provide sound and practical solutions for their concerns and regulatory compliance. We partner with our clients in their growth aspirations, supporting them with solid legal advice that comes from our depth of experience, enriched with new ideas and solutions. The trust we build earns the confidence of our clients. Among them are a number of multinational enterprises, listed companies, and large taxpayers registered with the Large Taxpayers Unit of the Philippines' tax authority.

We provide these services to a variety of industries that include banking and other financial institutions, power and energy, oil and gas, mining, real estate and construction, manufacturing, and technology - further enriching our insights viewed from the lens of best practices.



Our Philosophy

Competence, responsiveness, integrity, the willingness to explore new thinking and offer cutting-edge solutions - these are the values that we at BDB Law anchor our practice on.

These values animate our service philosophy, strengthened by good practice policies that ensure prompt, on-time delivery, and value-added results that in turn allow our clients to maximize their resources and to remain agile in their market spaces.

Our Perspective

We appreciate the uniqueness of each engagement - and we take time to study the nuances of our clients' positions so that we can provide personalized and responsive services that manage their risks and strengthen their positions.





Our People

We believe that our people are our biggest resource. Guided by the collective vision and expertise of the partners who are experienced in tax and corporate services, we continue to build our human capital with our associates who are well-versed in taxation, legal and corporate services, and our paralegals and support staff - who serve and ensure that the firm will always move from strength to strength.

Holistic.
Professional.
Personal.

Our Partnership

The Benefits of Working with WTS Global

We recognize the benefits of a global perspective as a way of enabling linkages and knowledge sharing. We are the exclusive member firm of WTS Global in the Philippines - a leading global tax practice offering a full range of tax services and is represented in over 100 countries. We are proud to be part of this organization where only law firms that pass their stringent selection process, quality reviews, and strong presence in their respective markets are admitted.



Global team

WTS Global acts as a well-coordinated and organized team with each member knowing immediately who to contact in another country, thereby securing cost efficiency and responsiveness.

One point of contact

Clients have one point of contact who knows their business as well as their expectations and needs. Such point of contact efficiently coordinates the tailor-made international project team.

Cross-border solutions

WTS Global makes it possible to present fast and consistent cross-border solutions to our clients.



A photograph of two men in dark blue suits shaking hands in an office. The man on the right is wearing glasses and a red tie, and is smiling. The background shows a bookshelf and a window with a view of a building.

**Solutions
that are
aligned with
our roots
and values.
Solutions
that evolved
along with
the modern
technologies
of our
society.**

We offer services around 3 major areas of practice - TAX, LEGAL, and CONSULTING. We take the time to analyze the needs of our clients and the business environment they play in to formulate comprehensive and practical end-to-end solutions that we feel would be most responsive to their requirements.

Our Professional Services



Tax Services

A major portion of our portfolio lies in the area of TAX. The services that we offer in the field of tax practice is wide-ranging enabling us to offer end-to-end solutions. It is divided into these major categories:

- Tax Controversies, and Tax Claims
- Tax Litigation
- Tax Advisory and Tax Planning
- Incentives
- Transfer Pricing
- International Tax
- Tax Due Diligence and Regulatory Compliance
- Global Expatriate Services
- Customs
- Training and Advocacy



Legal Corporate Services

We offer a comprehensive range of legal corporate services under these major areas of expertise:

- Legal Due Diligence
- Contract Negotiation, Drafting and Review
- Registration and Dissolution
- Securing Permits and Licenses
- Corporate Secretarial Services
- Directorship
- Repatriation



Consulting Services

The depth of our experience in the industry allows us to make clear and informed consultations in matters of tax, legal and commercial transactions. Our goal is to support you in thinking through options, weigh risks and assist in developing and implementing the right solutions.

- Restructuring
- Mergers and acquisitions.
- Post-merger integration assistance.

Our Pride

We are consistently ranked as a leading and highly recommended firm in the field of taxation by international awards bodies - a testament to our commitment to high standard of professionalism in our practice. These recognitions and awards inspire us to keep on raising the bar of quality and excellence in our service to our clients.

Awards

- Highly Recommended as a Leading Firm in Tax (2012-2018), *Chambers and Partners*
- Highly Recommended Firm (Tax) (2017-2018), *Asialaw Profiles*
- Multi-awarded Firm in Tax by the *International Tax Review*
 - Philippine Tax Firm of the Year (2016)
 - Philippines Tax Disputes and Litigation Firm of the Year (2018)
 - Asia Tax Policy Firm of the Year (2018)

Individual Awards

Benedicta Du-Baladad

- Leading Lawyer in Tax (2012), *Chambers and Partners*
- 2018 Top 100 Lawyers in the Philippines, *Asia Business Law Journal*
- Multi-awarded lawyer in Tax by the *International Tax Review*
 - Women in Tax Leaders (2015-2018)
 - Tax Controversy Leader (2016-2018)
 - Indirect Tax Leader (2017-2018)

Fulvio D. Dawilan

- Indirect Tax Leader (2017-2018), *International Tax Review*

Irwin C. Nidea, Jr.

- Leading Lawyer in Taxation (2017), *Asialaw Profiles*



Our Passion



We recognize that success comes with responsibilities that extend beyond the walls of our offices.

In March 2015, the BDB Law Foundation was established by the Firm as its arm in fulfilling its corporate social responsibilities.

Through the initiatives of the Foundation, we hope to contribute to the goal of giving every Filipino a chance to live a decent and respectable life with his/her family.



Our Partners





Passion is our key fuel that drives us to create and develop innovative solutions and ideas that are most responsive to our clients' needs.

From left to right:

Rodel C. Unciano
Partner

Fulvio "Fulvs" Dawilan
Managing Partner

Benedicta "Dick"
Du-Baladad
Founding Partner
Chair and CEO

Irwin C. Nidea Jr.
Senior Partner

Our Partners



Benedicta “Dick” Du-Baladad Founding Partner Chair and CEO

Benedicta “Dick” Du-Baladad is an accountant and a lawyer, with a degree of Masters of Law and International Taxation obtained from Harvard University, USA. She has been in practice in the field of taxation and corporate law for over 30 years.

Prior to founding BDB Law, she was the Head of Tax Advisory and Compliance of a leading auditing firm in the country. She is also a former official of the tax authority, where she held various posts in legal, operations and policy making. Her most notable contribution was the setting up of the Large Taxpayers Service, responsible for more than half of the country’s revenue collection.

Dick shares her comprehensive and well-rounded expertise through her authorship of award-winning books related to banking, insurance, capital markets and other financial institutions. She writes a regular column for the Business Mirror “Tax Law for Business” and doubles as the Philippine correspondent of Tax Notes International. She is a staunch advocate of fair, simple, clear and consistent tax rules and policies.

Her commitment to service for public good led her to establish the BDB Law Foundation that allows her to pursue her passion to make a meaningful impact beyond her responsibilities to the firm.

During her free time, she lets her artistic inclinations come to the fore through her paintings, designing her clothes and tending to her flower sanctuary in Silang, Cavite.

Areas of Practice

- High-end Tax Consulting and Advisory
- Tax Planning
- Tax Controversies and Tax Claims
- Tax Litigation
- Transfer Pricing
- Restructuring
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Tax Compliance and Due Diligence Review
- Tax Advocacy

Sector Expertise

- A generalist with expertise in banking, insurance, financing companies and other financial intermediaries, construction and real estate, power, oil and gas, and information technology.

Professional Certifications

- Certified Public Accountant
- Lawyer
- Institute of Corporate Directors (Fellow)

Education

- Advanced Management Program, Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania (2007)
- Master of Laws and International Tax Program, Harvard University (1997)
- Bachelor of Laws, University of Santo Tomas (1989)
- Bachelor’s degree in Accountancy, Magna Cum Laude, St. Louis University (1982)

Professional Affiliations and Memberships

- Governor, Management Association of the Philippines (MAP) - 2014-2015 and 2019-2020
- Chairman and CEO, FINEX Academy (2019)
- Vice President, Women Business Council of the Philippines (2019)
- Past President, Financial Executives of the Philippines (FINEX) - 2017
- Past President, Tax Management Association of the Philippines (TMAP), (2005)
- Past Chair, Taxation Committee, Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI)
- Member, various foreign business chambers
- Member, Integrated Bar of the Philippines
- Member, Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants



Fulvio “Fulvs” Dawilan

Managing Partner

Fulvio “Fulvs” Dawilan is in-charge of the day-to-day operations of the firm. He has been in practice in the field of taxation for over 20 years.

Prior to joining BDB Law, Fulvs furthered his mastery of taxation as both an accountant and a lawyer when he worked as a Partner of the Tax Advisory & Compliance Division of one of the major accounting firms in the Philippines.

Fulvs caters his tax and corporate advisory services to local and multinational companies in various industries. He has handled numerous engagements involving determination of client’s compliance with tax rules and regulations and has represented clients in tax cases before the tax authority, the Department of Finance and the Courts. He has extensive experience in handling tax and corporate concerns; registration and dissolution of businesses, reorganization and tax restructuring. His strong tax experience is further enriched by three years of external audit work at another major accounting firm in the Philippines.

Fulvs loves nature and he often goes back to his hometown in the high mountains of Sagada to savor the scent of pine trees and the freshness of nature that remained untouched by commercialization.

Areas of Practice

- Tax Consulting and Advisory
- Handling Tax Disputes, Protests, Requests for Rulings and Claims for Refunds
- Tax Litigation
- Corporate Services
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Tax Compliance Review and Tax Returns Preparation and Filing
- Expatriate Taxation

Sector Expertise

- A generalist with expertise in various industries, such as petroleum/energy, services, technology, mining, banking and finance, manufacturing and trading.

Professional Certifications

- Certified Public Accountant
- Licensed Lawyer in the Philippines and in New York, USA

Education

- Bachelor of Laws, San Beda College
- Bachelor of Science in Accountancy, Saint Louis University

Professional Affiliations and Memberships

- Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Integrated BAR of the Philippines
- New York State BAR Association
- Tax Management Association of the Philippines
- Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines
- European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines

Our Partners



Irwin C. Nidea Jr. Senior Partner

Irwin C. Nidea, Jr. is in charge of the firm's Litigation Unit. He is an economist-lawyer and has been in practice in the field of taxation and corporate law for over 15 years.

Before joining BDB Law, Irwin worked as a tax manager doing tax advisory and compliance work in one of the major accounting firms in the country.

At BDB Law, Irwin specializes in litigation involving tax disputes and controversies, claims for refunds and collection cases, both local and national taxes, for various domestic and multinational clients. Other than litigation, Irwin also does transfer pricing work such as documentation, policy and defense, tax advisory and various corporate services.

Irwin loves discovering the world with his wife Lalaine and his 8-year-old daughter, Megan Rain.

Areas of Practice

- Tax Litigation
- Transfer Pricing
- Tax Consulting and Advisory
- Handling of Tax Disputes, Protests, Requests for Rulings and Claims for Refunds
- Corporate Services
- Mergers and Acquisitions

Professional Certifications

- Lawyer

Education

- Juris Doctor, Ateneo de Manila University School of Law (2003)
- Bachelor of Arts Major in Economics, Ateneo de Manila University (1999)
- Transfer Pricing Training, sponsored by Grant Thornton International, Ltd. (Saigon, Vietnam - July 2008)
- WTS Global Leadership Training at Insead-Cedep, Fontainebleau, France (2018)

Professional Affiliations and Memberships

- Integrated BAR of the Philippines
- Tax Management Association of the Philippines
- American Chamber of Commerce



Rodel C. Unciano

Partner

Rodel C. Unciano is in charge of the firm's administrative matters. He is a CPA-Lawyer with over 15 years of experience in tax and corporate services.

Before joining BDB Law, Rodel worked in a big multinational company serving as its legal and tax officer. He handled various tax issues on the company's national and local business taxes and provided tax advisory to different business units within the company and its affiliates.

Rodel regularly appears before the Court of Tax Appeals and regular courts. He likewise handles administrative protests and claims for refunds before administrative bodies such as the tax authority and different local government units across the country. He likewise handles tax advisory, tax planning, tax restructuring, due diligence reviews and requests for rulings with the tax bureau.

Rodel also undertakes various corporate services including assistance for setting up businesses, registration, availment of investment incentives among others.

Rodel loves to travel and hike mountains in his spare time.

Areas of Practice

- Tax Consulting and Advisory
- Handling Tax Disputes, Protests, and Claims for Refund
- Corporate Services
- Tax Litigation
- Tax Treaty Availment
- Tax Returns Preparation and Filing
- Requests for Rulings

Professional Certifications

- Certified Public Accountant
- Lawyer

Professional Affiliations and Memberships

- Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Integrated BAR of the Philippines
- Tax Management Association of the Philippines

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Holistic. Professional. Personal.



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