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Introduction

Block is founded and operates on the simple but fundamental principle that everyone should be able to participate and thrive in local, regional as well as global economies. Block builds tools to empower businesses and individuals to participate in the economy. Sellers use Square to reach buyers online and in person, manage their business, and access financing. Individuals use Cash App to spend, send, store, and invest money. TIDAL is a global music and entertainment platform that expands Block’s purpose of economic empowerment to artists. Block has also launched TBD, a bitcoin-focused business established to build an open developer platform with the goal of making it easy to create non-custodial, permissionless, and decentralized financial services.

At Block, we are guided by our purpose of economic empowerment, which we seek to achieve through lawful, transparent and respectful business dealings. As a result, we expect that all suppliers of products and services to Block, including consulting firms, independent contractors, staffing agencies, contingent workers, and licensees (“Block Suppliers”), approach business lawfully, ethically, with integrity, good judgment, and fairness. The Block Supplier Code of Business Conduct and Ethics (“Code”), is based on the following guiding tenets: (a) operating business ethically and compliantly; (b) protecting the labor rights of all workers; (c) safeguarding the health and safety of all workers; and (d) stewardship of the environment. All Block Suppliers are expected to conduct business in accordance with this Code, including instituting appropriate policies and practices, and communicating and enforcing the provisions of this Code throughout their organization and across their supply chains and subcontractors.

This Code is not intended to provide an exhaustive list of Block’s expectations, but rather highlights examples of the types of compliance obligations and business practices that should always be top of mind for Block Suppliers when conducting business.

For purposes of this Code, “we,” “our,” “Company,” and “Block” refer to Block, Inc. and its subsidiaries.

Ethics and Compliance

Integrity

Block is committed to conducting business in accordance with the highest ethical standards and in compliance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations. We expect Block Suppliers to share our principles and uphold our standards, and where Block’s standards conflict with local law, we expect Block Suppliers to honor the higher standard.
Anti-Bribery. Block believes business should be won on its merits, and not based on any form of bribery, extortion, kickbacks or other corrupt or unethical business practice. Block Suppliers may not offer or accept bribes to or from anyone, and are expected to follow all applicable anti-corruption laws wherever they do business in the world. This includes any benefit, gift, gratuity, services or consideration of any kind to Block representatives, officers, agents or employees in exchange for Block’s business.

Fair Competition. Block Suppliers should comply with antitrust and competition laws and deal fairly and ethically in their business arrangements, including never taking advantage of another party through improper manipulation, concealment or misrepresentation of material facts, or any other unfair dealing practices.

No Conflicts of Interest. Block Suppliers should avoid any conflicts of interest, or appearance thereof. Any conflicts, or appearance thereof, that could potentially impact an engagement with Block shall be disclosed to Block immediately.

Intellectual Property, Data Protection and Privacy
Block Suppliers should take all commercially reasonable steps to protect confidential information and respect intellectual property (“IP”) rights. They are expected to design and continuously improve processes that provide commercially reasonable protection to personally identifiable information, confidential information, and IP.

Securities Laws Compliance
Block Suppliers may have access to material, non-public information about Block or other companies. Information is material if a reasonable investor would consider it important in deciding whether to buy, sell, or hold a company’s securities. Block Suppliers are prohibited by law from transacting in securities of a company while in possession of material, non-public information of such company and/or communicating such information to others.

Raising Questions and Reporting Concerns
We expect Block Suppliers to have a process through which their employees, customers and clients can raise workplace concerns without fear of retaliation. The reporting process should be transparent and ensure the protection of reporting persons.

In addition, Block is committed to maintaining a business environment in which Block Suppliers feel comfortable raising any good faith concern, free of retaliation. Accordingly, we do not tolerate any retaliation against any individual for reporting or participating in good faith in the investigation of any suspected fraudulent activity or violation of law or this Code. This also means that Block Suppliers should communicate with us if they are unsure of what to do or
have concerns regarding a potential violation of the Code. Block Suppliers (or their employees, agents or representatives) may report such a concern via our reporting hotline at www.lighthouse-services.com/square (available to all individuals performing services for Block), through which they may choose to identify themselves or remain anonymous.

Cooperation in Investigations

Should violations of this Code be reported, suspected, uncovered or otherwise arise, Block Suppliers are expected to cooperate in good faith and provide truthful information in connection with an inquiry or investigation by Block, an external investigator, a court, an arbitrator, law enforcement, or any other government agency or official.

Conflict Minerals

Block supports the humanitarian goal of ending the violence and human rights abuses in minerals sourcing. Block strives to have a conflict-free supply chain and is committed to avoiding the use of conflict minerals. Block Suppliers are expected to conduct the necessary due diligence and provide proper verification of the country of origin and source of the materials used in the products supplied to Block. Block Suppliers are expected to have a policy to reasonably assure that the use of minerals in the products, parts, components, and materials they manufacture does not directly or indirectly finance or benefit armed groups or contribute to serious human rights abuses.

Labor and Human Rights

Fair Treatment

Block is committed to diversity and inclusion and conducting business with Block Suppliers who share this commitment. Harassment, abuse, corporal punishment, degrading or inhumane treatment should not be authorized or tolerated. Block Suppliers represent that they are equal-opportunity employers and that they shall not discriminate based upon race, color, age, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, marital status, relationship status, ethnicity, national origin, caste, physical or mental disability, genetic information, medical condition, pregnancy, religion, political affiliation, veteran status and/or any other trait protected by applicable law.

Working Hours

Block Suppliers are expected to comply with any applicable legal limits with respect to hours worked (including overtime hours) and working days.
Wages
Block Suppliers are expected to provide and pay all wages and any legally-mandated benefits, and make any wage withholdings, in accordance with applicable laws. In addition, Block Suppliers are expected to comply with any applicable wage reduction laws. Block has the expectation that wage deduction as a disciplinary measure is unacceptable.

Forced Labor
Block Suppliers are expected to ensure that all personnel performing services for Block are doing so on a voluntary basis, with the freedom to terminate their employment status at their own discretion subject to lawful notice provisions that may apply. Slavery, forced labor, indentured work, and human trafficking of any kind should not be permitted under any circumstances.

Child Labor
Block Suppliers should not employ anyone below the minimum age for employment in their respective country or locale, and in no circumstance shall they employ anyone under the age of 15. Block Suppliers should implement all necessary and effective practices and processes to ensure that they do not employ anyone who is underage.

Freedom of Association
Block Suppliers are expected to permit and respect their worker’s right to bargain collectively and associate freely.

Health and Safety
Block firmly believes in the protection of the health and safety of all workers and expects our Block Suppliers to provide its workers with a safe and healthy work environment. Our Block Suppliers are expected to comply with applicable laws regarding working conditions and meet the standards below.

Occupational Safety
It is expected that Block Suppliers provide a safe and healthy work environment to their workers, and either meet or exceed all applicable health and safety regulations and/or legal requirements.
Emergency Preparedness
Block Suppliers are expected to take all commercially reasonable measures to identify, plan for, and implement appropriate action plans and procedures to ensure their workers’ safety during emergencies.

Shelter, Sanitation, and Food
Block Suppliers are expected to provide their workers with ready to use potable water and clean toilet facilities. If accommodations or residential facilities are provided to workers, it is expected that they are well maintained, clean, safe, include emergency egresses, hot water for showering, and adequate ventilation and heat.

Stewardship of the Environment
Block is committed to minimizing and reducing the environmental impacts of our business. All Block Suppliers are expected to develop, implement, and maintain environmentally responsible business practices.

Compliance with Environmental Laws
Block Suppliers are expected to comply with all applicable environmental policies, laws, rules, and regulations, including adhering to environmental permits and approval for regulated activities.

Energy Use Consumption
Block Suppliers are expected to track, monitor and, where possible, reduce their energy use consumption, utilizing renewable energy to the fullest extent possible, so as to be better stewards of the environment in their communities.

 Hazardous Materials
Block Suppliers are expected to implement a system to identify, manage, reduce, and eliminate hazardous substances and other materials posing a hazard if released into the environment and to ensure their safe handling, movement, storage, use, and recycling. Block Suppliers are expected to properly dispose of any hazardous waste in accordance with applicable standards.
Pollution Prevention and Resource Reduction

Block Suppliers should strive to reduce or eliminate waste of all types, including air, water and energy, at the source or by practices such as modifying production, maintenance and facility processes, materials substitution, recycling, and reusing materials. Block Suppliers are expected to reduce the consumption of energy, water, and natural resources by implementing conservation and substitution measures and to conduct routine monitoring of the performance of their waste treatment and containment systems as applicable to ensure compliance with laws and regulations.