

# *49 Companies Fined Under Barack Obama Administration for Violating Blockade against Cuba*

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New York, October 8 (RHC)-- A total of 49 fines have been imposed during the Barack Obama administration on U.S. and foreign entities for violating the blockade against Cuba, according to the records of the U.S.'s Office of Foreign Assets Control.

The cumulative value of such fines amounts to \$14.3 billion, an unprecedented figure in the history of the application of the blockade, in spite of the U.S. and Cuba having reestablished diplomatic relations more than a year ago.

Eight entities, five American and three foreign, were fined after the December 17, 2014 announcement that the U.S. and Cuba were beginning a process of normalization of relations. The cumulative value of these fines stands at 2.8 billion dollars. The fines are interpreted as a way of intimidating the banking and corporate sector and discouraging it from dealing with Cuba.

The banks and commercial entities that were fined by the United States after the December 2014 announcement are the Commerzbank, from Germany; PayPal, from the United States; Navigators Insurance Company, from the United States; Crédit Agricole, from France; Gil Tours Travel, Inc., from the United States; WATG Holdings, Inc., from the United States, CGG Services S.A., from France; and Halliburton, from the United States.

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