

Deutsche Bank halts business with Trump over Capitol assault



Berlin, January 12 (RHC)-- Deutsche Bank has decided to halt business with Donald Trump and his companies, joining the chorus of firms and social media companies taking their distance from the president in the wake of the assault on the U.S. Capitol which left five people dead.

The German bank is Trump's biggest lender, with about \$340 million in loans outstanding to the Trump Organization, the president's umbrella group that is currently overseen by his two sons, according to Trump's disclosures with the US Office of Government Ethics dated July 31 last year, plus banking sources.

The move comes as Signature Bank, where Trump's ethics disclosures show he has checking and money-market accounts, called for him to step down. "The resignation of the president ... is in the best interests of our nation and the American people," Signature Bank said on its website.

A spokesman for Deutsche Bank declined to comment on Tuesday on the NYT report.

The Trump Organization did not immediately respond to an email from Reuters news agency seeking comment outside normal business hours, and the White House press office did not answer the phone.

Christiana Riley, the head of Deutsche Bank's US operations, condemned the January 6 violence in Washington in a post on LinkedIn last week.

"We are proud of our Constitution and stand by those who seek to uphold it to ensure that the will of the people is upheld and a peaceful transition of power takes place," she wrote.

Reuters reported in November that Deutsche Bank was looking for ways to end its relationship with Trump after the US elections, as it tires of the negative publicity stemming from the ties.

Trump's loans with Deutsche are for a golf course in Miami and hotels in Washington and Chicago.

The president was handed a rebuke by the world of professional golf this week, with the Professional Golfers' Association of America and the Royal and Ancient Golf Club both announcing they would shun two courses owned by Trump following the Capitol storming.

Twitter and Facebook have shut down Trump's social media feeds.

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