

Brazil's Federal Police seeks charges against President Michel Temer



Brazilia, September 6 (RHC) -- Brazil's Federal Police have requested charges be brought against President Michel Temer for corruption and money laundering, alleging that his Democratic Party received US\$2.41 million in bribes from Odebrecht in 2014.

Odebrecht made the alleged payments in 2014 when Temer was vice president. The Brazilian construction giant remains at the heart of a corruption scandal a regional that has reached regional dimension.

The police claim that Temer engaged in the crimes of passive corruption and money laundering. An indictment could eventually lead to his suspension from office.

Temer's office said in a written statement that the president had committed no wrongdoing and that the funds received from Odebrecht were legal campaign donations.

Brazil's Prosecutor General Raquel Dodge requested in March that Temer be investigated despite the constitutional ban that prohibits him from standing trial while president for crimes committed before he took office.

Once Temer leaves office on Jan. 1, he could still face the charges that Congress blocked and any new charges that may be filed against him while still in office.

Temer took over his post in August 2016 after what many considered a legislative coup against elected President Dilma Rousseff, off the Workers' Party.

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