

New Brazil Corruption Scandal Could Implicate 30% of Lawmakers



Brasilia, June 21 (RHC)-- Two top executives involved in Brazil's ongoing corruption scandals are competing to reach a plea bargain with Brazilian authorities. Two top executives from Brazil's Odebrecht and OAS construction multinationals, which stand at the center of a multi-billion dollar corruption scandal, are in competition to secure a plea bargain from federal authorities which could implicate a staggering 29 percent of the nation's elected officials, Brazilian media outlets report.

The legal defendants of Marcelo Odebrecht told reporters that their client has already agreed to participate in a deal that would implicate over 175 deputies and senators from the 594 currently serving in the National Congress.

However, Odebrecht is also in competition with his former business rival Leo Pinheiro, a former executive with OAS, since prosecutors have indicated they may only issue one plea bargain deal.

As part of the agreement, Brazilian authorities are requesting that both Odebrecht and Pinheiro provide new information and concrete testimonies to help prove that Brazilian politicians accepted bribes and in exchange granted government infrastructure contracts to the companies of Odebrecht and OAS.

In 2014, Odebrecht built highways, shipyards, airports, subways and venues for the 2016 Olympics in Rio, netting a total revenue of \$46 billion USD. The Brazilian task force in charge of carrying out these investigations believes that Odebrecht and Pinheiro can provide details of around \$13 billion in dirty contracts.

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