

Brazilian Bar Association demands removal of justice minister



Brasilia, June 12 (RHC)-- The Brazilian Bar Association is demanding the removal of Justice Minister Sergio Moro from his cabinet post after a lengthy report by The Intercept revealed Moro's partiality in the case of former president Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. Judge Moro presided over the case prior to becoming a part of President Jair Bolsonaro's administration.

The report revealed that Moro, who crusaded as an anti-corruption judge, coordinated with prosecutors in the far-reaching Operation Car Wash (Lava Jato) corruption case that led to the conviction of the popular Leftist leader.

The documents were released in a three-part series by The Intercept showing leaked documents and telegram messages between prosecutors and Moro that evidence they went to lengths to prevent Lula and his Workers' Party from returning to power.

Moro ruled against Lula and rendered him ineligible to run in the 2018 presidential election at a time when all polls showed that the former president was the clear frontrunner. This gave far-right Jair Bolsonaro a strong lead that resulted in his presidency win.

Bolsonaro then, according to many, “rewarded” Moro by creating an unprecedented powerful position now called the “super justice minister,” which has complete control over all the judicial branch, policing and social control in Brazilian society.

After the publication of the report, which according to the website, is just a small part of an “enormous trove” of messages, the Supreme Court decided to resume debate on Lula’s case. The Bar Association also recommended disbanding all prosecutors involved in the case “so that the investigation can run without any suspicions.”

Congressman Marcelo Ramos said that Moro should temporarily step down as the justice minister. This would give the federal police, under his authority, the freedom to investigate him if necessary.

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