

# *Two men accused of assassinating Brazilian councilmember and activist Marielle Franco face trial*

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Brasilia, March 19 (RHC)-- In Brazil, the two men accused of assassinating Rio de Janeiro councilmember and activist Marielle Franco will face a jury trial. A Brazilian judge also decided former military police officers Ronnie Lessa and Élcio Queiroz will be tried for the killing of Franco's driver and the attempted killing of a former Franco aide who were in the car at the time of the ambush.

In February, another one of the hitmen suspected of being involved was killed by police. Marielle Franco was assassinated just over two years ago. She was a vocal Black LGBTQ rights activist and a longtime critic of police brutality.



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