

Brazilian High Court Rejects Adding Alleged Corruption to Rousseff Trial



Brasilia, April 4 (RHC) -- A Brazilian Supreme Court magistrate rejected including accusations linking President Dilma Rousseff to the Petrobras corruption case in her own political trial, court sources reported.

Justice Rosa Weber on Friday evening rejected the petition by opposition lawmaker Arnaldo Faria de Sa to add testimony linking Rousseff to corruption to the charges on fiscal maneuvering she is facing. That testimony accuses the president of knowing what was happening in the Petrobras corruption network and trying to obstruct the judicial investigation into it.

The legislative commission examining the legal merits of subjecting Rousseff to impeachment last week rejected incorporating the testimony linking her to the Petrobras scheme.

The commission, comprised of 65 lawmakers, will prepare a document that, if it receives the green light, will be submitted to the full lower house, where it needs the support of a two-thirds majority to be forwarded to the Senate.

The upper chamber would then decide by a simple majority whether or not to put Rousseff on trial. If she goes to trial, the president provisionally would have to step down from her post for 180 days.

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