

Four Right-Wing Lawmakers and One From the Communist Party to Review Impeachment Case Against Judge Antonio Ulloa Over Alleged Ties to Luis Hermosilla

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The impeachment motion alleges that Santiago Appeals Court Justice Antonio Ulloa repeatedly breached judicial confidentiality by leaking sealed rulings, drafts, memos, and vote tallies to attorney Luis Hermosilla, violating duties of abstention and impartiality and improperly intervening in judicial appointments.



Deputy Alejandra Placencia (PC) and lawmakers Gustavo Benavente (UDI), Jose9 Carlos Meza (PR), Frank Sauerbaum (RN) and Hotuiti Teao (RN) will lead the review of the constitutional impeachment motion filed against Santiago Appeals Court Justice Antonio Ulloa over alleged links to attorney Luis Hermosilla's corruption network.

«In accordance with Article 52 of the Political Constitution, the Floor took cognizance of the accusation submitted by deputies Daniel Manouchehri, Marcos Ilabaca, Daniella Cicardini, Luis Malla, Juan Santana, Leonardo Soto, Camila Musante, Eric Aedo, Boris Barrera, Javiera Morales and Cosme Mellado. And, in line with the rule, it drew by lot the five lawmakers who must analyze the impeachment brief,» the Chamber bulletin said.

According to the filing, the motion argues «that Justice Antonio Ulloa's actions constitute a notable abandonment of duties by leaking case information to

attorney Luis Hermosilla. It further alleges the magistrate violated his duty of abstention and impartiality in judicial decisions and improperly intervened in appointments within the Judiciary.»

Thus, across the three chapters that make up the indictment, it states that Ulloa «clearly and consistently has gravely and repeatedly breached the duty of secrecy and confidentiality imposed by the Constitution, the law and judicial ethics codes,» by leaking confidential rulings and agreements and sending memos, drafts and vote counts to attorney Luis Hermosilla.

He also allegedly committed a serious violation of his duties «by participating in the resolution of cases and other judicial proceedings despite conflicts of interest and a manifest animosity toward certain participants.»

In the third chapter, meanwhile, the accusing lawmakers assert that Ulloa improperly intervened in appointments to the primary ranks of the Judiciary. They further contend he maintained contacts with senators to «influence votes related to a constitutional accusation against Judge Silvana Donoso and the nomination of Judge Rafal Mena to the Supreme Court.»

Deadlines

Once notified, Justice Antonio Ulloa has 10 days to appear before the committee in person or in writing. Lawmakers then have six days to study the constitutional accusation and deliver their recommendation, which is ultimately sent to the Floor so it can rule on the admissibility of the brief.

Read more on this case:

«Hermosilla's network is still operating»: Harsh criticism of the Supreme Court's decision not to remove Judge Antonio Ulloa

Association of Jurists for Democracy sharply criticizes impunity for Justice Ulloa in judicial corruption case

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Fuente: El Ciudadano