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OFAC Sanctions Maduro Regime Officials for Obstructing Venezuela's Electoral Process

By Holland & Knight

The U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) on Sept. 12, 2024, sanctioned 16 officials aligned with President Nicolás Maduro regime who obstructed a fair and inclusive presidential election process in Venezuela and violated the civil and human rights of Venezuelans. The individuals sanctioned under Executive Order 13692 include leaders of the National Electoral Council (CNE) and the Supreme Court of Justice (TSJ) connected to President Maduro's regime. Their actions hindered a transparent electoral process and prevented the release of accurate election results. The sanctioned officials also included military, intelligence and government personnel who intensified repression through intimidation tactics, arbitrary detentions and censorship. These officials were appointed by Maduro, who has been sanctioned by OFAC since 2017.

At the same time, the U.S. Department of State imposed new visa restrictions, under Presidential Proclamation 9931, on officials linked to the Maduro regime who undermined Venezuela's electoral process and are responsible for acts of repression. With these new sanctions, nearly 2,000 individuals have been subjected to visa restrictions for their involvement in significant corruption, human rights violations and actions that undermine democracy.

The list of designated officials can be consulted on the official OFAC website.

It is important to note that, once designated by OFAC, these entities or individuals will have their assets locked and will be prohibited from transacting with U.S. businesses or individuals. Any person or entity that collaborates with them could also face sanctions.

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