



BREAKING NEWS

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Home / Mexico / by the son of a winemaker in the shadow of Lozoya

BY THE SON OF A WINEMAKER IN THE SHADOW OF LOZOYA

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Emilio Lozoya has always been backed by Froylán Gracia Galicia, his friend with whom he planned almost everything that would happen during his tenure at Pemex. Their relationship was further strengthened when, as head of the Petróleos Mexicanos General Management Office, he oversaw all kinds of meetings and relationships to benefit the former director of the oil company and his first circle.

Although Lozoya and Gracia's profiles appear to be different - the first belonged to the political and international financial elite of Mexico, while the second was always of a lesser profile, her father had tomato warehouses in the capital of Central de Abasto - basically two very much similar personalities: ambitious, arrogant and narcissistic, as described by several former government officials of former President Enrique Peña Nieto, Pemex workers and business people who lived with them during the previous administration.

Gracia Galicia graduated from the American College in Mexico City, where she began meeting with some of the wealthy families in the country.

7;s capital. In his teens, his parents sent him to a military boarding school in Texas: the Marine Academy in Houston, and then he returned to Mexico to do an administration degree with Ibero. His acquaintances say that since then he has enjoyed showing off his studies abroad and his luxury cars: he drove a Corvette.

After completing his master's degree at Georgetown University, he became a consultant at the Mexican Embassy in the United States, where he met Lozoya Austin, who at the time was running mutual funds in New York and was Chief Director of the World Economic Forum, for Latin America.

The click was immediate: both had aspirations in the public administration of Mexico and Lozoya was a consultant to a company with strong ties to the Peña Nieto government in the state of Mexico. It was the controversial Spanish construction company OHL.

Lozoya and Gracia Galicia's relationship began between 2009 and 2010 when Peña Nieto was listed as a possible presidential candidate.

During their first talks in Washington and New York, they dreamed of a relevant position as this management could look like. Paradoxically, his passkey was Lozoya's favorite villain, Luis Videgaray, who coordinated the presidential campaign and invited him to become part of the International Linkage Coordinator.

When they got to Pemex, Lozoya and Froylán were convinced they needed to make money fast because they didn't plan on staying with the company for the full six-year tenure. For this reason, strategies such as the "Million Dollar Club" were proposed from the beginning of his tenure, which consisted of inviting a group of 25 entrepreneurs who would encourage them with offers and, as a guarantee, "membership" for that amount of money.

These and other bribery and extortion measures were planned and falsified with the permission of the former Pemex director, who was involved in public relations in the Middle East, Europe and the United States, while its operator, Gracia Galicia, met with the help of then-coordinator of Asesores Carlos Roa the agreements in Mexico.

"How can I not use Pemex aircraft for tours when the Arab sheikhs come to meet in this way," Lozoya once said as a justification for the indiscriminate use of the state-owned company's aircraft.

This arrogance was taken away by Froylán, who on the one hand "entertained" politicians, officials and business people with bacchanalia in various houses in Mexico City and in paradisiacal places on the Riviera Maya, and on the other hand depressed them to the fullest and he used them to subdue them Put pressure to sell their businesses or pass laws in favor of Pemex. The most emblematic cases are those of oceanography, black gold, and evya.

The chronicles that Froylán tell about the parties in the house on Calle Copérnico in the Anzures district are an anthology: Vega Sicilia wines and other expensive drinks: Dozens of foreign women – the majority of Latin and Eastern Europeans – have created the right environment to do deals with the heat of the drink and the ecstasy.

What few knew was that there were hidden cameras and microphones in this house to record conversations, to protect the Pemex officers, and to find a possible future method of blackmail.

Lozoya and Froylán's relationship continued when they left Pemex and public administration. They felt inviolable by the incriminating evidence they supposedly had from practically "everyone". One of the most important: the logs of the flights of the Pemex planes, in which the relatives of Peña Nieto and Videgaray made several trips to tourist and shopping destinations.

The story of the new administration changed things however and today everyone is in the eye of the hurricane.

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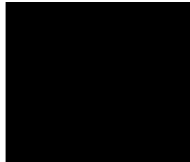
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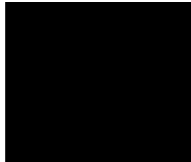
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