

US, Cuba to Hold Claims Talks in Havana on Tuesday - State Department

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WASHINGTON (Sputnik) — The US delegation will be led by State Department Acting Legal Adviser Mary McLeod, according to the release.

"This initial meeting will allow the two sides to exchange information on a wide variety of claims," the release said on Monday. "The United States views the resolution of outstanding claims as a top priority for normalization."

The US claims include unsatisfied US court judgments against Cuba and other unsettled issues. Cuba raised claims related to the half a century embargo against the island nation.

US Stonegate Bank continues to face embargo-related obstacles while trying to operate in Cuba amid the ongoing normalization process between Washington and Havana.

In December 2014, US President Barack Obama announced the United States would normalize relations with Cuba. The two countries reopened embassies in their respective capitals on July 20, after more than 50 years of non-engagement.

Despite the relief in tensions, Washington continues to maintain a trade embargo on Cuba mandated by the US Congress.