

Los Angeles Court Dismisses Charges and Frees Mapuche Community Member José Luis Marilao

El Ciudadano · 26 de noviembre de 2025

Marilao is part of a group of four Mapuche community members who have been prosecuted and acquitted four times due to insufficient evidence.



Original article: [Tribunal de Los Ángeles dicta sobreseimiento definitivo y deja en libertad a comunero mapuche José Luis Marilao](#)

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In a unanimous decision, the Penal Oral Court of Los Angeles announced the definitive dismissal of charges against Mapuche community member José Luis

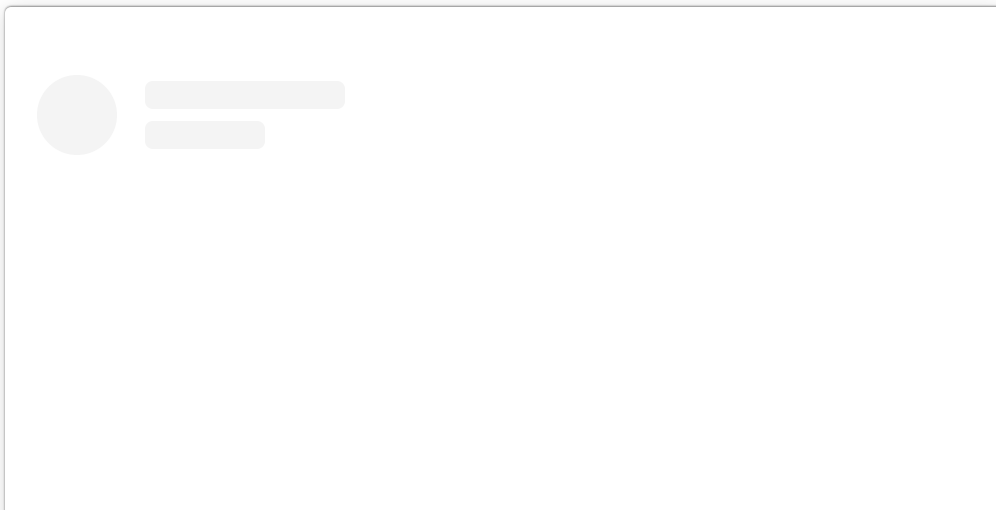
Marilao, ordering his immediate release in the high-profile case known as «Fundo Punta Arenas.»

This case, which unfolded in Los Angeles, involved incidents of truck arson and attacks on drivers in 2021, and has been characterized by a particularly complex judicial process.

Initially, Ernesto Llaitul and his associates received a 15-year prison sentence. However, a nullity appeal filed by their defense led to a retrial, during which they were acquitted of all charges, exposing significant weaknesses in the evidence presented by the Public Ministry.

An article published by [La Izquierda Diario](#) highlights that «the story of José Luis Marilao is a stark example of judicial persecution. He was part of a group of four Mapuche community members who faced prosecution and were acquitted four times, including the Los Angeles case where evidence of a setup was demonstrated.»

The publication noted that «José Luis remains imprisoned in the Biobío Penitentiary under preventive detention, awaiting a preparatory hearing for another case. His family alleges that the prosecution seeks ‘revenge’ for exposing the previous setup, even with clumsily manipulated evidence.»

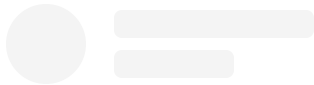




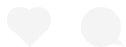
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Fuente: El Ciudadano