

# *TeleSUR Journalist Cleared of FARC Ties Charges in Colombia*

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Bogota, March 12 (teleSUR-RHC)-- The attorney general of Colombia has closed an investigation against journalist William Parra, who was accused of having links with the FARC guerrillas and of providing them with weapons.

Parra, one of Colombia's best known journalists, has been living in Venezuela under political asylum after being charged by Colombian authorities in 2010. The journalist has always denied the accusations and said his lawyers had received death threats.

Currently, the journalist serves as Chief of Information and host at Pan-American broadcaster teleSUR.

Parra and teleSUR President Patricia Villegas expressed joy and satisfaction on social media for the Colombian justice's decision.

"Dear William, after seven years the Colombian justice system has closed your case, which should have never started in the first place! We celebrate the end of this injustice," said Villegas, who is also a Colombian national.

Parra, who worked for Caracol Radio, Reuters, and RCN TV, was press secretary for former Colombian President Ernesto Samper, who currently serves as the Secretary-General of the Union of South

American Nations (UNASUR).

As one of Latin America's most experienced journalists, Parra has undergone all kind of adverse situations.

Parra was kidnapped in 1997 by men claiming to be members of the Medellin cartel, and in 2000 he fled to Spain following death threats. In 2005, he was attacked and seriously injured near Bogota, and in 2013 he was shot in the leg by a rebel sniper while covering the Syrian armed conflict for teleSUR.

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