United States Court of Appeals Fifth Circuit

FILED

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

May 2, 2007

Charles R. Fulbruge III Clerk

No. 06-41285 Conference Calendar

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff-Appellee,

versus

ARMANDO MORENO-VELASQUEZ,

Defendant-Appellant.

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas USDC No. 5:06-CR-463-ALL

Before HIGGINBOTHAM, WIENER, and PRADO, Circuit Judges. PER CURIAM:*

Appealing the Judgment in a Criminal Case, Armando Moreno-Velasquez (Moreno) preserves for further review his contention that his sentence is unreasonable because this court's post-<u>Booker</u>^{**} rulings have effectively reinstated the mandatory Sentencing Guideline regime condemned in <u>Booker</u>. Moreno concedes that his argument is foreclosed by <u>United States v. Mares</u>, 402 F.3d 511 (5th Cir.), <u>cert. denied</u>, 126 S. Ct. 43 (2005), and its progeny, which have outlined this court's methodology for

^{*} Pursuant to 5TH CIR. R. 47.5, the court has determined that this opinion should not be published and is not precedent except under the limited circumstances set forth in 5TH CIR. R. 47.5.4.

^{** &}lt;u>United States v. Booker</u>, 543 U.S. 220 (2005).

reviewing sentences for reasonableness. Moreno also raises arguments that are foreclosed by <u>Almendarez-Torres v. United</u> <u>States</u>, 523 U.S. 224, 235 (1998), which held that 8 U.S.C. § 1326(b)(2) is a penalty provision and not a separate criminal offense. The Government's motion for summary affirmance is GRANTED, and the judgment of the district court is AFFIRMED.