United States Court of Appeals Fifth Circuit

## FILED

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

**December 6, 2006** 

Charles R. Fulbruge III
Clerk

No. 06-50498 Conference Calendar

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff-Appellee,

versus

RAFAEL CANO-BAEZ, also known as Rafael Baez-Cano, also known as Rafael Cano-Baeza,

Defendant-Appellant.

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas USDC No. 2:05-CR-731-ALL

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Before REAVLEY, STEWART, and CLEMENT, Circuit Judges.

PER CURIAM:\*

Appealing the Judgment in a Criminal Case, Rafael Cano-Baez raises arguments that are foreclosed by <u>Almendarez-Torres v.</u>

<u>United 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.

<sup>\*</sup> 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 R. 47.5, the court has determined that this opinion should not be published and is not precedent except under the limited circumstances set forth in 5TH CIR.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.