IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

United States Court of Appeals Fifth Circuit

FILEDJanuary 30, 2008

No. 07-40972 Conference Calendar

Charles R. Fulbruge III Clerk

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Plaintiff-Appellee

V.

GUADALUPE HERNANDEZ-MENDEZ

Defendant-Appellant

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas USDC No. 1:07-CR-435-1

Before REAVLEY, BENAVIDES, and ELROD, Circuit Judges. PER CURIAM:*

Appealing the Judgment in a Criminal Case, Guadalupe Hernandez-Mendez raises arguments that are foreclosed by Almendarez-Torres v. United States, 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. United States v. Pineda-Arrellano, 492 F.3d 624, 625 (5th Cir. 2007), cert. denied, 2008 WL 59441 (Jan.

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 R. 47.5, the court has determined that this opinion should not be published and is not precedent except under the limited circumstances set forth in 5TH CIR.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

7, 2008) (No. 07-6202). The appellant's motion for summary disposition is GRANTED, and the judgment of the district court is AFFIRMED.