IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

United States Court of Appeals Fifth Circuit

FILEDJanuary 30, 2008

No. 07-51208 Conference Calendar

Charles R. Fulbruge III

Clerk

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Plaintiff-Appellee

V.

VICTOR MANUEL MATA-BARRERA

Defendant-Appellant

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas USDC No. 2:07-CR-309-1

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

Appealing the Judgment in a Criminal Case, Victor Manuel Mata-Barrera 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 R. 47.5, the court has determined that this opinion should not be published and is not precedent except under the limited circumstances set forth in 5TH CIR.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 Government's motion for summary affirmance is GRANTED, and the judgment of the district court is AFFIRMED.