

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

United States Court of Appeals  
Fifth Circuit

**FILED**

December 15, 2009

Charles R. Fulbruge III  
Clerk

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No. 09-40461  
Conference Calendar

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff-Appellee

v.

WILFREDO RUIZ-ZAMBULA,

Defendant-Appellant

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Appeal from the United States District Court  
for the Southern District of Texas  
USDC No. 1:08-CR-780-1

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Before KING, JOLLY, and SOUTHWICK, Circuit Judges.

PER CURIAM:\*

The attorney appointed to represent Wilfredo Ruiz-Zambula (Ruiz) has moved for leave to withdraw and has filed a brief in accordance with *Anders v. California*, 386 U.S. 738 (1967). Ruiz has filed a response. The record is insufficiently developed to allow consideration at this time of Ruiz's claims of ineffective assistance of counsel; such claims generally "cannot be resolved on direct appeal when [they have] not been raised before the district court since no opportunity existed to develop the record on the merits of the allegations."

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 R. 47.5, the court has determined that this opinion should not be published and is not precedent except under the limited circumstances set forth in 5TH CIR.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

*United States v. Cantwell*, 470 F.3d 1087, 1091 (5th Cir. 2006) (internal quotation marks and citation omitted). Our independent review of the record, counsel's brief, and Ruiz's response discloses no nonfrivolous issue for appeal. Accordingly, the motion for leave to withdraw is GRANTED, counsel is excused from further responsibilities herein, and the APPEAL IS DISMISSED. *See* 5TH CIR. R. 42.2.