United States Court of Appeals Fifth Circuit

FILED

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

April 19, 2006

Charles R. Fulbruge III Clerk

No. 05-41193 Summary Calendar

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Plaintiff - Appellee

v.

MIGUEL FIGUEROA-ROJAS

Defendant - Appellant

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas USDC No. 5:05-CR-105-ALL

Before KING, WIENER and DeMOSS, Circuit Judges.

PER CURTAM:*

Miguel Figueroa-Rojas's constitutional challenge is foreclosed by <u>Almendarez-Torres v. United States</u>, 523 U.S. 224, 235 (1998). Although Figueroa-Rojas contends that <u>Almendarez-Torres</u> was incorrectly decided and that a majority of the Supreme Court would overrule <u>Almendarez-Torres</u> in light of <u>Apprendi v. New Jersey</u>, 530 U.S. 466 (2000), we have repeatedly rejected such arguments on the basis that <u>Almendarez-Torres</u> remains binding.

<u>See United States v. Garza-Lopez</u>, 410 F.3d 268, 276 (5th Cir.),

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 R. 47.5, the court has determined that this opinion should not be published and is not precedent except under the limited circumstances set forth in 5TH CIR.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

cert. denied, 126 S. Ct. 298 (2005). Figueroa-Rojas properly
concedes that his argument is foreclosed in light of AlmendarezTorres and circuit precedent, but he raises it here to preserve
it for further review.

The conviction and sentence of Figueroa-Rojas are AFFIRMED.