United States Court of Appeals Fifth Circuit

## FILED

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

August 17, 2005

Charles R. Fulbruge III Clerk

No. 04-51415 Conference Calendar

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff-Appellee,

versus

NOEL ALVAREZ-LICEA,

Defendant-Appellant.

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas USDC No. 2:04-CR-571-1

Before BENAVIDES, CLEMENT, and PRADO, Circuit Judges.

PER CURIAM:\*

Appealing the Judgment in a Criminal Case, Noel Alvarez-Licea raises arguments that are foreclosed by <u>Almendarez-Torres</u> <u>v. United States</u>, 523 U.S. 224, 235 (1998), which held that a prior conviction is a sentencing factor under 8 U.S.C. § 1326(b)(2) 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 R. 47.5, the court has determined that this opinion should not be published and is not precedent except under the limited circumstances set forth in 5TH CIR.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.