## IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT United States Court of Appeals Fifth Circuit

FILED

No. 07-50763 Conference Calendar

Charles R. Fulbruge III Clerk

December 5, 2007

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Plaintiff-Appellee

V.

RUBEN VALENZUELA-MORALES, also known as Arturo Valenzuela-Jimenez

Defendant-Appellant

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas USDC No. 3:07-CR-45-ALL

Before JOLLY, HIGGINBOTHAM, and PRADO, Circuit Judges. PER CURIAM:<sup>\*</sup>

Appealing the Judgment in a Criminal Case, Ruben Valenzuela-Morales 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), petition for cert. filed (Aug. 28, 2007) (No. 07-6202). The Government's motion for summary affirmance is GRANTED, and the judgment of the district court is AFFIRMED.

<sup>&</sup>lt;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 R. 47.5, the court has determined that this opinion should not be published and is not precedent except under the limited circumstances set forth in 5TH CIR.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.