IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

United States Court of Appeals Fifth Circuit

FILED

December 12, 2007

No. 06-41042 Conference Calendar

Charles R. Fulbruge III
Clerk

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Plaintiff-Appellee

V.

FREDDY LIONEL ROMERO-VENTURA

Defendant-Appellant

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas USDC No. 5:05-CR-2529-ALL

Before REAVLEY, BARKSDALE, and GARZA, Circuit Judges. PER CURIAM:*

Freddy Lionel Romero-Ventura (Romero) appeals the 41-month sentence he received following his guilty-plea conviction for illegal reentry, in violation of 8 U.S.C. §1326. In light of Apprendi v. New Jersey, 530 U.S. 466 (2000), Romero challenges the constitutionality of § 1326(b)'s treatment of prior felony and aggravated felony convictions as sentencing factors rather than elements of the offense that must be found by a jury. This court has held that this issue is "fully

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 R. 47.5, the court has determined that this opinion should not be published and is not precedent except under the limited circumstances set forth in 5TH CIR.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

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foreclosed from further debate." United States v. Pineda-Arrellano, 492 F.3d 624, 625 (5th Cir. 2007), petition for cert. filed (Aug. 28, 2007) (No. 07-6202). AFFIRMED.