

FILED

February 24, 2006

Charles R. Fulbruge III
Clerk

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

No. 05-40669
Conference Calendar

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff-Appellee,

versus

JESUS DON JUAN-SERRANO,

Defendant-Appellant.

Appeal from the United States District Court
for the Southern District of Texas
USDC No. 1:04-CR-640-1

Before GARZA, DENNIS, and PRADO, Circuit Judges.

PER CURIAM:*

Jesus Don Juan-Serrano pleaded guilty to illegal reentry after deportation and was sentenced to 57 months of imprisonment and a three-year term of supervised release. For the first time on appeal, Don Juan-Serrano challenges the constitutionality of 8 U.S.C. § 1326(b).

Don Juan-Serrano's constitutional challenge is foreclosed by Almendarez-Torres v. United States, 523 U.S. 224, 235 (1998).

Although Don Juan-Serrano contends that Almendarez-Torres was

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 R. 47.5, the court has determined that this opinion should not be published and is not precedent except under the limited circumstances set forth in 5TH CIR.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

incorrectly decided and that a majority of the Supreme Court would overrule Almendarez-Torres in light of Apprendi v. New Jersey, 530 U.S. 466 (2000), we have repeatedly rejected such arguments on the basis that Almendarez-Torres remains binding. See United States v. Garza-Lopez, 410 F.3d 268, 276 (5th Cir.), cert. denied, 126 S. Ct. 298 (2005). Don Juan-Serrano properly concedes that his argument is foreclosed in light of Almendarez-Torres and circuit precedent, but he raises it here to preserve it for further review.

AFFIRMED.