IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

> No. 02-40446 Conference Calendar

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff-Appellee,

versus

ADOLFO NAVA-CORONA, also known as Juan Peredes-Gonzalez, also known as Juan Paredes-Gonzalez,

Defendant-Appellant.

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas USDC No. M-01-CR-789-1 December 12, 2002

Before JOLLY, JONES, and CLEMENT, Circuit Judges.

PER CURIAM:*

Adolfo Nava-Corona ("Nava") appeals the 37-month sentence imposed following his plea of guilty to a charge of being found in the United States after deportation, a violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1326. He contends that the aggravated-felony conviction that resulted in his increased sentence under 8 U.S.C. § 1326(b)(2) was an element of the offense that should have been charged in the indictment.

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 R. 47.5, the court has determined that this opinion should not be published and is not precedent except under the limited circumstances set forth in 5TH CIR.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

Nava acknowledges that his argument is foreclosed by the Supreme Court's decision in <u>Almendarez-Torres v. United States</u>, 523 U.S. 224 (1998), but he seeks to preserve the issue for Supreme Court review in light of the decision in <u>Apprendi v. New</u> Jersey, 530 U.S. 466 (2000).

<u>Apprendi</u> did not overrule <u>Almendarez-Torres</u>. <u>See Apprendi</u>, 530 U.S. at 489-90; <u>United States v. Dabeit</u>, 231 F.3d 979, 984 (5th Cir. 2000), <u>cert. denied</u>, 121 S. Ct. 1214 (2001). Nava's argument is foreclosed. The judgment of the district court is AFFIRMED.