

February 23, 2006

Charles R. Fulbruge III
Clerk

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

No. 05-40898
Conference Calendar

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff-Appellee,

versus

CARLOS ROBERTO ARREAGA-LOPEZ, also known as Jose Angel Arriola,
also known as Juan Carlos Arriola, also known as Carlos Lopez,

Defendant-Appellant.

Appeal from the United States District Court
for the Southern District of Texas
USDC No. 2:05-CR-46-ALL

Before GARZA, DENNIS, and PRADO, Circuit Judges.

PER CURIAM:*

Carlos Roberto Arreaga-Lopez appeals his sentence under 8 U.S.C. § 1326 for illegal reentry into the United States after having been deported. Arreaga-Lopez argues that the "felony" and "aggravated felony" provisions of 8 U.S.C. § 1326(b) are unconstitutional. This challenge is foreclosed by Almendarez-Torres v. United States, 523 U.S. 224, 235 (1998). Although Arreaga-Lopez contends that Almendarez-Torres was incorrectly decided and that a majority of the Supreme Court would overrule

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 R. 47.5, the court has determined that this opinion should not be published and is not precedent except under the limited circumstances set forth in 5TH CIR.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

Almendarez-Torres in light of Apprendi, 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). Arreaga-Lopez 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.