United States Court of Appeals Fifth Circuit

FILED

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

**December 14, 2005** 

Charles R. Fulbruge III
Clerk

No. 05-50761 Conference Calendar

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff-Appellee,

versus

JOSE INES CHAVEZ, also known as Jose Chavez,

Defendant-Appellant.

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas USDC No. 3:04-CR-2719-ALL

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Before KING, Chief Judge, and HIGGINBOTHAM and SMITH, Circuit Judges.

PER CURIAM:\*

Appealing the Judgment in a Criminal Case, Jose Ines Chavez raises arguments that are foreclosed by <u>Almendarez-Torres v.</u>

<u>United States</u>, 523 U.S. 224, 235 (1998), which held that a prior conviction is a sentencing factor under 8 U.S.C. § 1326(b)(2) and not a separate criminal offense. The Government's motion for summary affirmance is GRANTED, and the judgment of the district court is AFFIRMED.

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 R. 47.5, the court has determined that this opinion should not be published and is not precedent except under the limited circumstances set forth in 5TH CIR.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