

United States Court of Appeals  
for the Fifth Circuit

---

No. 24-50293  
Summary Calendar

---

United States Court of Appeals  
Fifth Circuit

**FILED**

April 14, 2025

Lyle W. Cayce  
Clerk

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

*Plaintiff—Appellee,*

*versus*

HECTOR MANUEL NUNEZ-CARDENAS,

*Defendant—Appellant.*

---

Appeal from the United States District Court  
for the Western District of Texas  
USDC No. 2:22-CR-206-1

---

Before WIENER, HO, and RAMIREZ, *Circuit Judges.*

PER CURIAM:\*

Defendant-Appellant Hector Manuel Nunez-Cardenas appeals following his conviction for illegal reentry in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1326, arguing for the first time on appeal that the statutory sentencing enhancement in § 1326(b) is unconstitutional. He concedes this argument is foreclosed by *Almendarez-Torres v. United States*, 523 U.S. 224 (1998), and

---

\* This opinion is not designated for publication. *See* 5TH CIR. R. 47.5.

No. 24-50293

the Government has filed an unopposed motion for summary affirmance or, alternatively, for an extension of time in which to file a brief.

The argument is foreclosed. *See United States v. Pervis*, 937 F.3d 546, 553-54 (5th Cir. 2019); *see also Erlinger v. United States*, 602 U.S. 821, 838 (2024) (explaining that *Almendarez-Torres* “persists as a narrow exception permitting judges to find only the fact of a prior conviction” (internal quotation marks and citation omitted)). Therefore, summary affirmance is appropriate. *See Groendyke Transp., Inc. v. Davis*, 406 F.2d 1158, 1162 (5th Cir. 1969). Accordingly, the motion for summary affirmance is GRANTED, the alternative motion for an extension of time is DENIED, and the judgment of the district court is AFFIRMED.