

No. \_\_\_\_\_

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

---

VIDAL GARZA-MORIN,

Petitioner,

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Respondent.

---

ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI  
TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

APPENDIX

---

/s/ Maria Gabriela Vega

JASON HAWKINS  
Federal Public Defender  
Northern District of Texas  
TX State Bar No. 00759763  
525 Griffin Street, Suite 629  
Dallas, TX 75202  
(214) 767-2746  
(214) 767-2886 Fax

MARIA GABRIELA VEGA \*\*  
Assistant Federal Public Defender  
Northern District of Texas  
TX State Bar No. 24084014  
525 Griffin Street, Suite 629  
Dallas, TX 75202  
(214) 767-2746  
(214) 767-2886

## INDEX TO APPENDICES

Appendix A Opinion of Fifth Circuit, CA No. 23-10559,  
*United States v. Garza-Morin*, 2023 WL 7870594 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. Nov. 15,  
2023)(unpublished).

Appendix B Judgment and Sentence of the United States District Court  
for the Northern District of Texas, entered May 19, 2023.  
*United States v. Garza-Morin*, Dist. Court 4:22-CR-376-P.

## APPENDIX A

# United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

---

No. 23-10559  
Summary Calendar

---

United States Court of Appeals  
Fifth Circuit  
**FILED**  
November 15, 2023  
Lyle W. Cayce  
Clerk

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

*Plaintiff—Appellee,*

*versus*

VIDAL GARZA-MORIN,

*Defendant—Appellant.*

---

Appeal from the United States District Court  
for the Northern District of Texas  
USDC No. 4:22-CR-376-1

---

Before WIENER, STEWART, and DOUGLAS, *Circuit Judges*.

PER CURIAM:\*

Defendant-Appellant Vidal Garza-Morin appeals his conviction and sentence for illegal re-entry into the United States after deportation under 8 U.S.C. § 1326(a) and (b)(1). On appeal, he renews his argument that the recidivism enhancement in § 1326(b) is unconstitutional because it permits a sentence above the otherwise-applicable statutory maximum established by

---

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

No. 23-10559

§ 1326(a), based on facts that are neither alleged in the indictment nor found by a jury beyond a reasonable doubt. His ten-month term of imprisonment does not exceed the maximum in § 1326(a), but his three-year term of supervised release is only authorized by § 1326(b), by virtue of 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559(a)(3) and 3583(b)(2). *Cf.* §§ 3559(a)(5), 3583(b)(3) (setting a one-year maximum for an offense punishable under § 1326(a)).

Garza-Morin acknowledges this argument is foreclosed by *Almendarez-Torres v. United States*, 523 U.S. 224 (1998), but he nevertheless seeks to preserve it for possible Supreme Court review. The Government has moved, without opposition, for summary affirmance or, alternatively, for an extension of time to file its brief.

This court has held that subsequent Supreme Court decisions such as *Alleyne v. United States*, 570 U.S. 99 (2013), and *Apprendi v. New Jersey*, 530 U.S. 466 (2000), did not overrule *Almendarez-Torres*. *See United States v. Pervis*, 937 F.3d 546, 553-54 (5th Cir. 2019). Garza-Morin is thus correct that his argument is foreclosed. Because the Government’s position “is clearly right as a matter of law so that there can be no substantial question as to the outcome of the case,” summary affirmance is appropriate. *Groendyke Transp., Inc. v. Davis*, 406 F.2d 1158, 1162 (5th Cir. 1969).

The Government’s motion for summary affirmance is GRANTED, and the judgment of the district court is AFFIRMED. The Government’s alternative motion for an extension of time is DENIED as moot.

## APPENDIX B

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
Fort Worth Division

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**JUDGMENT IN A CRIMINAL CASE**

v.

VIDAL GARZA-MORIN

Case Number: 4:22-CR-00376-P(01)

U.S. Marshal's No.: 34279-177

P.J. Meitl for Levi Thomas, Assistant U.S. Attorney  
Andrea Aldana, Attorney for the Defendant

On February 8, 2023 the defendant, VIDAL GARZA-MORIN, entered a plea of guilty as to Count One of the Indictment filed on December 14, 2022. Accordingly, the defendant is adjudged guilty of such Count, which involves the following offense:

<u>Title &amp; Section</u>	<u>Nature of Offense</u>	<u>Offense Ended</u>	<u>Count</u>
8 U.S.C. § 1326(a) and (b)(1)	Illegal Reentry After Deportation	7/24/2022	One

The defendant is sentenced as provided in pages 2 through 5 of this judgment. The sentence is imposed pursuant to Title 18, United States Code § 3553(a), taking the guidelines issued by the United States Sentencing Commission pursuant to Title 28, United States Code § 994(a)(1), as advisory only.

The defendant shall pay immediately a special assessment of \$100.00 as to Count One of the Indictment filed on December 14, 2022.

The defendant shall notify the United States Attorney for this district within thirty days of any change of name, residence, or mailing address until all fines, restitution, costs, and special assessments imposed by this judgment are fully paid.

Sentence imposed May 18, 2023.



MARK T. PITTMAN  
U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE

Signed May 19, 2023.

Judgment in a Criminal Case  
Defendant: VIDAL GARZA-MORIN  
Case Number: 4:22-CR-00376-P(1)

Page 2 of 5

### IMPRISONMENT

The defendant, VIDAL GARZA-MORIN, is hereby committed to the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to be imprisoned for a term of **Ten (10) months** as to Count One of the Indictment filed on December 14, 2022. This sentence shall run consecutively to any future sentence which may be imposed in Case No. 1470829D in the 372<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District Court, Tarrant County, Texas, which is unrelated to the instant offense.

The Court recommends to the Bureau of Prisons that the defendant be incarcerated at a facility within the Northern District of Texas, if possible.

The defendant is remanded to the custody of the United States Marshal.

### SUPERVISED RELEASE

Upon release from imprisonment, the defendant shall be placed on supervised release for a term of **Three (3) years** as to Count One of the Indictment filed on December 14, 2022.

As a condition of supervised release, upon the completion of the sentence of imprisonment, the defendant shall be surrendered to a duly-authorized immigration official for deportation in accordance with the established procedures provided by the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 USC § 1101 et seq. As a further condition of supervised release, if ordered deported or removed, the defendant shall remain outside the United States.

In the event the defendant is not deported immediately upon release from imprisonment, or should the defendant ever be within the United States during any portion of the term of supervised release, the defendant shall also comply with the standard conditions contained in the Judgment and shall comply with the mandatory and special conditions stated herein:

- 1) The defendant shall report to the probation office in the federal judicial district where he or she is authorized to reside within 72 hours of release from imprisonment, unless the probation officer instructs the defendant to report to a different probation office or within a different time frame;
- 2) After initially reporting to the probation office, the defendant will receive instructions from the court or the probation officer about how and when to report to the probation officer, and the defendant shall report to the probation officer as instructed;
- 3) The defendant shall not knowingly leave the federal judicial district where he or she is authorized to reside without first getting permission from the court or the probation officer;
- 4) The defendant shall answer truthfully the questions asked by the probation officer;
- 5) The defendant shall live at a place approved by the probation officer. If the defendant plans to change where he or she lives or anything about his or her living arrangements (such as the people the defendant lives with), the defendant shall notify the probation officer at least 10 days before the change. If notifying the probation officer at least 10 days in advance is not possible due to unanticipated circumstances, the defendant shall notify the probation officer within 72 hours of



Judgment in a Criminal Case  
Defendant: VIDAL GARZA-MORIN  
Case Number: 4:22-CR-00376-P(1)

Page 3 of 5

becoming aware of a change or expected change;

- 6) The defendant shall allow the probation officer to visit the defendant at any time at his or her home or elsewhere, and the defendant shall permit the probation officer to take any items prohibited by the conditions of the defendant's supervision that he or she observed in plain view;
- 7) The defendant shall work full time (at least 30 hours per week) at a lawful type of employment, unless the probation excuses the defendant from doing so. If the defendant does not have full-time employment, he or she shall try to find full-time employment, unless the probation officer excuses the defendant from doing so. If the defendant plans to change where the defendant works or anything about his or her employment (such as the position or the job responsibilities), the defendant shall notify the probation officer at least 10 days before the change. If notifying the probation officer in advance is not possible due to unanticipated circumstances, the defendant shall notify the probation officer within 72 hours of becoming aware of a change or expected change;
- 8) The defendant shall not communicate or interact with someone the defendant knows is engaged in criminal activity. If the defendant knows someone has been convicted of a felony, the defendant shall not knowingly communicate or interact with that person without first getting the permission of the probation officer;
- 9) If the defendant is arrested or questioned by a law enforcement officer, the defendant shall notify the probation officer within 72 hours;
- 10) The defendant shall not own, possess, or have access to a firearm, ammunition, destructive device, or dangerous weapon (i.e., anything that was designed , or was modified for, the specific purpose of causing bodily injury or death to another person, such as nunchakus or tasers);
- 11) The defendant shall not act or make an agreement with a law enforcement agency to act as a confidential human source or informant without first getting the permission of the court;
- 12) If the probation officer determines that the defendant poses a risk to another person (including an organization), the probation officer may require the defendant to notify the person about the risk and the defendant shall comply with that instruction. The probation officer may contact the person and confirm that the defendant has notified the person about the risk; and,
- 13) The defendant shall follow the instructions of the probation officer related to the conditions of supervision.

In addition the defendant shall:

not commit another federal, state, or local crime;

not possess illegal controlled substances;

not possess a firearm, destructive device, or other dangerous weapon;

Judgment in a Criminal Case  
Defendant: VIDAL GARZA-MORIN  
Case Number: 4:22-CR-00376-P(1)

Page 4 of 5

cooperate in the collection of DNA as directed by the U.S. probation officer;

submit to one drug test within 15 days of release from imprisonment and at least two periodic drug tests thereafter, as determined by the court;

pay the assessment imposed in accordance with 18 U.S.C. § 3013; and,

not illegally reenter the United States if deported or allowed voluntary departure.

#### **FINE/RESTITUTION**

The Court does not order a fine or costs of incarceration because the defendant does not have the financial resources or future earning capacity to pay a fine or costs of incarceration.

Restitution is not ordered because there is no victim other than society at large.

Judgment in a Criminal Case  
Defendant: VIDAL GARZA-MORIN  
Case Number: 4:22-CR-00376-P(1)

Page 5 of 5

**RETURN**

I have executed this judgment as follows:

---

---

---

Defendant delivered on \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
at \_\_\_\_\_, with a certified copy of this judgment.

---

United States Marshal

BY \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Marshal