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*United States v. Almeida-Ponce*,  
Nos. 25-50348 & 25-50349,  
(5th Cir. Nov. 20, 2025) (per curiam) (unpublished)

8 U.S.C. § 1326..... 3a–5a

## APPENDIX A

United States Court of Appeals  
for the Fifth Circuit

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No. 25-50348  
CONSOLIDATED WITH  
No. 25-50349  
Summary Calendar

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United States Court of Appeals  
Fifth Circuit  
**FILED**  
November 20, 2025  
Lyle W. Cayce  
Clerk

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

*Plaintiff—Appellee,*

*versus*

HUGO ALMEIDA-PONCE,

*Defendant—Appellant.*

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Appeals from the United States District Court  
for the Western District of Texas  
USDC Nos. 4:24-CR-341-1, 4:24-CR-329-1

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Before KING, HAYNES, and HO, *Circuit Judges.*

PER CURIAM:\*

Hugo Almeida-Ponce appeals following his conviction for illegal reentry, *see* 8 U.S.C. § 1326(a), as well as the revocation of his supervised release in a previous case. Regarding his conviction, Almeida-Ponce argues for the first time on appeal that the statutory sentencing enhancement in

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

25-50348  
c/w No. 25-50349

§ 1326(b) is unconstitutional because it is based on facts not alleged in the indictment and neither admitted nor proved beyond a reasonable doubt. He does not raise any issue related to the revocation. Almeida-Ponce concedes that his only argument is foreclosed by *Almendarez-Torres v. United States*, 523 U.S. 224 (1998). The Government moves for summary affirmance or, alternatively, for an extension of time in which to file a merits brief. Almeida-Ponce takes no position on the motion for summary affirmance.

The parties are correct that the sole argument Almeida-Ponce raises on appeal 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)). Summary affirmance is therefore appropriate. *See Groendyke Transp., Inc. v. Davis*, 406 F.2d 1158, 1162 (5th Cir. 1969). Accordingly, the Government’s motion for summary affirmance is GRANTED, the Government’s alternative motion for an extension of time is DENIED as moot, and the judgment of conviction and the order of revocation are AFFIRMED.

United States Code Annotated  
Title 8. Aliens and Nationality (Refs & Annos)  
Chapter 12. Immigration and Nationality (Refs & Annos)  
Subchapter II. Immigration  
Part VIII. General Penalty Provisions

8 U.S.C.A. § 1326

§ 1326. Reentry of removed aliens

Effective: September 30, 1996

[Currentness](#)

**(a) In general**

Subject to subsection (b), any alien who--

(1) has been denied admission, excluded, deported, or removed or has departed the United States while an order of exclusion, deportation, or removal is outstanding, and thereafter

(2) enters, attempts to enter, or is at any time found in, the United States, unless (A) prior to his reembarkation at a place outside the United States or his application for admission from foreign contiguous territory, the Attorney General has expressly consented to such alien's reapplying for admission; or (B) with respect to an alien previously denied admission and removed, unless such alien shall establish that he was not required to obtain such advance consent under this chapter or any prior Act,

shall be fined under Title 18, or imprisoned not more than 2 years, or both.

**(b) Criminal penalties for reentry of certain removed aliens**

Notwithstanding subsection (a), in the case of any alien described in such subsection--

(1) whose removal was subsequent to a conviction for commission of three or more misdemeanors involving drugs, crimes against the person, or both, or a felony (other than an aggravated felony), such alien shall be fined under Title 18, imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both;

(2) whose removal was subsequent to a conviction for commission of an aggravated felony, such alien shall be fined under such title, imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both;

(3) who has been excluded from the United States pursuant to [section 1225\(c\)](#) of this title because the alien was excludable under [section 1182\(a\)\(3\)\(B\)](#) of this title or who has been removed from the United States pursuant to the provisions of subchapter V, and who thereafter, without the permission of the Attorney General, enters the United States, or attempts to do so, shall be fined under Title 18 and imprisoned for a period of 10 years, which sentence shall not run concurrently with any other sentence.<sup>1</sup> or

(4) who was removed from the United States pursuant to [section 1231\(a\)\(4\)\(B\)](#) of this title who thereafter, without the permission of the Attorney General, enters, attempts to enter, or is at any time found in, the United States (unless the Attorney General has expressly consented to such alien's reentry) shall be fined under Title 18, imprisoned for not more than 10 years, or both.

For the purposes of this subsection, the term “removal” includes any agreement in which an alien stipulates to removal during (or not during) a criminal trial under either Federal or State law.

**(c) Reentry of alien deported prior to completion of term of imprisonment**

Any alien deported pursuant to [section 1252\(h\)\(2\)](#)<sup>2</sup> of this title who enters, attempts to enter, or is at any time found in, the United States (unless the Attorney General has expressly consented to such alien's reentry) shall be incarcerated for the remainder of the sentence of imprisonment which was pending at the time of deportation without any reduction for parole or supervised release. Such alien shall be subject to such other penalties relating to the reentry of deported aliens as may be available under this section or any other provision of law.

**(d) Limitation on collateral attack on underlying deportation order**

In a criminal proceeding under this section, an alien may not challenge the validity of the deportation order described in subsection (a)(1) or subsection (b) unless the alien demonstrates that--

- (1) the alien exhausted any administrative remedies that may have been available to seek relief against the order;
- (2) the deportation proceedings at which the order was issued improperly deprived the alien of the opportunity for judicial review; and
- (3) the entry of the order was fundamentally unfair.

**CREDIT(S)**

(June 27, 1952, c. 477, Title II, ch. 8, § 276, 66 Stat. 229; [Pub.L. 100-690, Title VII, § 7345\(a\)](#), Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4471; [Pub.L. 101-649, Title V, § 543\(b\)\(3\)](#), Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 5059; [Pub.L. 103-322, Title XIII, § 130001\(b\)](#), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2023; [Pub.L. 104-132, Title IV, §§ 401\(c\), 438\(b\), 441\(a\)](#), Apr. 24, 1996, 110 Stat. 1267, 1276, 1279; [Pub.L. 104-208, Div. C, Title III, §§ 305\(b\), 308\(d\)\(4\)\(J\), \(e\)\(1\)\(K\), \(14\)\(A\), 324\(a\), \(b\)](#), Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-606, 3009-618 to 3009-620, 3009-629.)

[Notes of Decisions \(1512\)](#)

### Footnotes

- 1 So in original. The period probably should be a semicolon.
- 2 So in original. Section 1252 of this title, was amended by Pub.L. 104-208, Div. C, Title III, § 306(a)(2), Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-607, and as so amended, does not contain a subsec. (h); for provisions similar to those formerly contained in section 1252(h)(2) of this title, see 8 U.S.C.A. § 1231(a)(4).  
8 U.S.C.A. § 1326, 8 USCA § 1326  
Current through P.L. 117-102. Some statute sections may be more current, see credits for details.

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