

TABLE OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX AA1–2

United States v. Chapa-Castaneda,
No. 25-50659
(5th Cir. Mar. 17, 2026) (unpublished opinion)

APPENDIX BB1–2

United States v. Chapa-Castaneda,
Indictment,
No. 2:23-CR-3008-1
(W.D. Tex. Nov. 15, 2023)

APPENDIX CC1–2

8 U.S.C. § 1326

APPENDIX A

United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

No. 25-50659
Summary Calendar

United States Court of Appeals
Fifth Circuit

FILED

March 17, 2026

Lyle W. Cayce
Clerk

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff—Appellee,

versus

EFRAIN CHAPA-CASTANEDA,

Defendant—Appellant.

Appeal from the United States District Court
for the Western District of Texas
USDC No. 2:23-CR-3008-1

Before HIGGINBOTHAM, ENGELHARDT, and RAMIREZ, *Circuit Judges.*

PER CURIAM:*

Efrain Chapa-Castaneda appeals his conviction and sentence for illegal reentry under 8 U.S.C. § 1326(a) and (b), arguing for the first time that the recidivism enhancement in § 1326(b) is unconstitutional. The Government has moved for summary affirmance or, alternatively, for an extension of time in which to file an appellate brief. While Chapa-Castaneda

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

No. 25-50659

takes no position on the motion for summary affirmance, he acknowledges his argument is foreclosed by *Almendarez-Torres v. United States*, 523 U.S. 224 (1998), and seeks to preserve it for possible Supreme Court review.

Chapa-Castaneda is correct that his 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)). 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, its alternative motion for an extension of time is DENIED, and the judgment of the district court is AFFIRMED.

APPENDIX B

FILED

November 15, 2023

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
 DEL RIO DIVISION

CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
 WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
 By: CR Deputy

DR:23-CR-03008-AM

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

§
 §
 §
 §
 §
 §
 §
 §
 §
 §

Cause No.:

v.

INDICTMENT

EFRAIN CHAPA-CASTANEDA, A/K/A
 EFREN CHAPA-CASTANEDA, A/K/A
 EFREN CHAPAS-CASTANEDA

[Vio: 8 U.S.C. § 1326(a) & (b)(1)/(2):
 Illegal Re-entry into the United States.]

THE GRAND JURY CHARGES:

COUNT ONE

[8 U.S.C. § 1326(a) & (b)(1)/(2)]

That on or about October 27, 2023, in the Western District of Texas, Defendant,

EFRAIN CHAPA-CASTANEDA, A/K/A EFREN CHAPA-CASTANEDA,
 A/K/A EFREN CHAPAS-CASTANEDA,

an alien, attempted to enter, entered, and was found in the United States having previously been denied admission, excluded, deported and removed from the United States on or about March 8, 2017, and that Defendant had not received the consent of the Attorney General of the United States and the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, to reapply for admission to the United States, in violation of Title 8, United States Code, Section 1326(a) & (b)(1)/(2).

A TRUE BILL.


 FOREPERSON

JAIME ESPARZA
United States Attorney

By:  For

JAYVEE RHODA
Assistant United States Attorney

APPENDIX C

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.¹ 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\(h\)\(2\)](#)² 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 \(1512\)](#)