

**UNPUBLISHED**

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

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**No. 05-2260**

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ALEXIS B. CASTILLO NAJERA,

Petitioner,

versus

ALBERTO R. GONZALES, Attorney General; UNITED  
STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,

Respondents.

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On Petition for Review of an Order of the Board of Immigration  
Appeals. (A96-446-367)

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Submitted: May 5, 2006

Decided: June 27, 2006

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Before MICHAEL and GREGORY, Circuit Judges, and HAMILTON, Senior  
Circuit Judge.

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Petition denied by unpublished per curiam opinion.

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Thomas A. Elliot, Thomas K. Ragland, ELLIOT & MAYOCK, Washington,  
D.C., for Petitioner. Peter D. Keisler, Assistant Attorney  
General, Donald E. Keener, Deputy Director, Alison Marie Igoe,  
Office of Immigration Litigation, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
JUSTICE, Washington, D.C., for Respondent.

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Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit.  
See Local Rule 36(c).

PER CURIAM:

Alexis B. Castillo Najera, a native and citizen of Mexico, petitions for review of a Board of Immigration Appeals ("Board") order finding him removable as a result of a state conviction for possession of cocaine. Najera contends the charge to which he pled guilty is not a conviction under 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(48)(A)(2000). He further contends it is a violation of his right to equal protection. We deny the petition for review.

We find there is no merit to Najera's claim that the prior conviction for drug possession should not be considered a conviction for removability purposes. See Acosta v. Ashcroft, 341 F.3d 218, 222 (3d Cir. 2003). We further find no merit to Najera's equal protection claim.

Accordingly, we deny the petition for review. We dispense with oral argument because the facts and legal contentions are adequately presented in the materials before the court and argument would not aid the decisional process.

PETITION DENIED