

The State of Louisiana v. Etienne Sylvan, f.m.c.

RG 252

Louisiana State Museum Historical Center

October 2012

Descriptive Summary

Title:	The State of Louisiana v. Etienne Sylvan, f.m.c.
Dates:	February 11, 1828 – May 13 1828
Abstract:	These are documents regarding a lawsuit arising from a brawl.
Extent:	1 folder
Accession:	T0025.2003.072.01-.04

Biographical / Historical Note

Scope and Content

This is a collection of documents regarding lawsuit arising from a brawl which occurred at "a certain public ball" on Feb 3, 1828. The state sued several free men of color (named) for unlawful assembly and riot. The charges were eventually dismissed. The collection includes depositions and reports written by police officers who responded to the incident.

Subjects

Unlawful assembly
New Orleans police
Criminal Court of the State of Louisiana
Public ball

Access of Use Restrictions

Access

Collection is **open** for research

Related or Separated Materials

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

The State of Louisiana v. Etienne Sylvan, f.m.c., Louisiana State Museum
Historical Center

Acquisition Information

Notes

These documents are in fragile condition.

Contents List

Folder 1: Letter addressed to Captain Penniman from M. Florence detailing the duties and practices of the police force's night patrol. New Orleans, February 11, 1828.

Report addressed to "His Honor the Mayor", signed Atherton Penniman, describing the actions of officers responding to a riot at the St. Philip Street Ball rooms. New Orleans, February 16, 1828.

Document titled "The State of Louisiana v. Sylvain Eteinne & alii . . . Attack & Battery on White Person" listing "coloured persons" who were transferred from Captain Penniman's guard to Captain Dutilles, having been brought before the mayor. February 16, 1828.

Document describing the riot at the St. Philip ball room leading to the arrests of Sylvain Eteinne and others. No date, ca. February 1828.

Document (deposition?) titled "1064 Criminal Court, The State vs. Eteinne Sylvan and Others – Unlawful Assembly and Riot". Describing the accusations against Eteinne and the others arrested at the public ball for unlawful meeting without written permission of the mayor. Note on verso that the verdict of Not Guilty was delivered March 6, 1828. No date. Circa February/March 1828.

