

## Document #1728-07-10-02 – Biron Threatens the Future of the French Colony

**K4BL Abstract:** The Attorney General of the King, François Fleuriau, asks the Superior Council to begin criminal proceedings against Biron of the Bambara nation after reading the declaration from Biron's enslaver of his marronage and armed resistance. Fleuriau cites the increase of Africans in the colony as the result of the slave trade as even more justification for punishing Biron, fearing the loss of control in plantation regions distant from New Orleans.

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### **LHC Card:**

#28-86

Year 1728

July 10

**LHC Abstract:** Motion of trial of rebellious slave by name Bevan belonging to Mr. Soubagne.

**\*note:** "Bevan" is crossed off, and written in red ink below it is "Biron" and "hab.[itation] Gentilly," as well as "Delachaise" in pencil.\*

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Names: Black - (Soubaigne), Biran; (Soubaigne), Biron; (Soubagné), Biron; "nègres"

Names: White - Delachaise, Jacques; Fleuriau, François; Soubaigne; Soubagné; Soubaigne, Jean

Names: Native - n/a

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Doc Selector - Olivia Barnard

Bias Set Reviewer - Leila Blackbird

Doc Transcribers - Olivia Barnard, Leila Blackbird

Doc Translators - Olivia Barnard, Holly Nelson, Leila Blackbird

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<p>[feuille 1 recto] [digital 2]</p> <p>A Messieurs Du Conseil superieur de la province de La Louisiane</p> <p>Expose le procureur general du roy que le nommé biran negre appartenant au sieur soubagné habitant a gentilly ayant fait plusieurs fois le maron Lorsque son maitre f[ait] [papier déchiré] jeudy dernier pour le chercher Et ayant voulu lepouvanter p[our] [papier déchiré] le faire revenir a la maison et lempescher de prendre encore La fuite il saisit son fusil et sen fust peustestre servy contre luy sil ne lavoit pas saisy et desarmé a laide de ses autres esclaves de sorte que le fusil fut cassé et comme cest une rebellion contre son maitre dautant plus punissable que le nombre de negres augmentons dans cette colonie on ne seroit pas en securété sur tout dans les habitations eloigneés et que ce negre est actuellement</p>	<p>[page #1] [digital 2]</p> <p>To the Gentlemen of the Superior Council of the Province of Louisiana</p> <p><i>Exposé</i> [of] the Attorney General of the King [Fleuriau] that the named Biron, <i>nègre</i> belonging to <i>Sieur</i> Soubaigne, <i>habitant</i> at Gentilly, having several times gone <i>maron</i>, [that] when his master [went] last Thursday to find him, and having wanted to scare him [in order to] make him come back to the house and prevent him from taking flight again, he [Soubaigne] seized his rifle and may have used it against him [Biron] if he [Biron] had not seized it and disarmed him [Soubaigne] with aid of his other <i>esclaves</i>, so that the rifle was broken, and since this is a rebellion against his master [Biron is] all the more punishable, [and as it is true] that the number of <i>nègres</i> is increasing in this colony, one would not be safe, particularly at distant plantations [if this were allowed], and as this <i>nègre</i> is now already</p>

<p>prisonnier ce consideré</p> <p>vous plaise Messieurs ordonner que par devant lun de vous biran negre soit interrogé pour ensuite etre procedé ainsy quil appartiendra et son proces luy etre fait et parfait jusqua jugement diffinitif a la nouvelle orleans le dix juillet mil sept cent vingt huit</p> <p>[Signé:] fleuriau</p> <p>permis de faire interroger le Negre En question devant M.<sup>r</sup> Brusle ce 10 juillet 1728</p> <p>[Signé:] Delachaise</p>	<p>a prisoner, [and with] this considered,</p> <p>May it please you, <i>Messieurs</i>, to order that Biron, <i>nègre</i>, be brought before you and interrogated, then afterwards to proceed, as it shall be appropriate, and that his trial will be prepared and [Biron be] entirely subject to until a definitive judgment [is rendered]. At New Orleans, the tenth of July, one-thousand seven-hundred and twenty-eight.</p> <p>[Signed:] [François] Fleuriau</p> <p>Permission [is granted] to interrogate the <i>nègre</i> in question before Mr. Bruslé, this [the] 10th of July, 1728.</p> <p>[Signed:] [Jacques] Delachaise</p>
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