

Battery Gadsden Cultural Center and The National Park Service Present



Looking Across Cooper's River 1838 by George Cooke

Slave Ships, Property, and Pirates A Look at Charleston's Maritime Law By Scott Bluestein, Esq.

DATE: March 15, 2018
TIME: 6:00 – 7:00 PM
VENUE: Fort Moultrie Visitor Center Auditorium
1214 Middle St., Sullivan's Island, SC

Charleston developed from a colonial seaport town in 1670 to a wealthy city by the 1750's due to its busy seaport. Rice, cotton, and indigo were exported on ships that sailed in the channel off Sullivan's Island. Ships carrying enslaved Africans into Charleston were an essential part of this plantation economy. By 1700, Vice-Admiralty Courts were created to deal with maritime disputes and crimes committed at sea. The Civil War in 1861 started an economic downturn for Charleston that lasted until the mid-20th Century. Today, Charleston is again one of the busiest seaports in the United States. Today's maritime disputes and crimes are still governed by U.S. Maritime Law that is based on the original British Common law of the 18th century.

Scott Bluestein, Esquire, has practiced admiralty and maritime law across the U.S. for over twenty-five years. Scott and his wife, Natalie, live on Sullivan's Island where his family has lived since the early 1940s. Scott is past chairman of the Admiralty Section of The American Association for Justice and the former Port of Charleston Director for the Southeastern Admiralty Law Institute.

This event is free and open to the public.
Co-sponsored by the National Park Service and
Battery Gadsden Cultural Center www.batterygadsden.com
Preserving the culture of art and history on Sullivan's Island