

Why We Are in the Admiralty Jurisdiction

Many a student has asked me why I file all of my documents in the admiralty jurisdiction. All of the “pro se” litigants have been sternly warned by their like-minded friends that such filings have been known to get people arrested and thrown in jail, since supposedly the admiralty gives the judge unparalleled judicial discretion in this venue that is supposedly without a constitution. In 1997 I had purchased a book about the admiralty jurisdiction called *Are you Lost at “C.?”* from Pastor Richard Standring, in Cincinnati, Ohio. Pastor Standring, one of the best IRS information persons in the United States had just started selling the book, but he had no outstanding opinion of it at the time. I read it, and not really understanding the book, placed it on my shelf to gather dust. ^{1[1]} About a year later, my local partner, Bob Shugrue, called me and relayed to me that Standring had recently used the procedures of the book in four cases and had won all of them. Immediately I called Standring to look into his results. After explaining the theory, I realized that the material was from the book sitting on my shelves. Pastor Standring made the most incredible remark when I asked him what the court tries to do to his clients in the courtroom. “Oh, Pastor Standring said, “They just try to talk us into agreeing to move the case out of the admiralty, and into the civil venue.” If I have learned anything about litigating claims against the government, it is that where I need to go is where the judges do not want me to go, even if I do not entirely understand why. I liken it to the military term of “pressing into the fire,” as the safest approach. Retreat usually gets one caught in crossfire, and death is the result.

^{1[1]} Pastor Standring also has a great collection of ancient Bible reprints that are great buys and great gifts for family. Place address here.

I thought, “If they do not want me in the Admiralty, that is probably the best place to be.” Then followed weeks of investigation, and all of the information I uncovered was far better than expected. I documented that the Admiralty is under Article III, where the constitution and statutory law both apply! In December of 1999 in Hawaii, we filed the first federal case. Over the next few weeks, what came from the other side was deafening silence. As usual, we placed the other side in default. However, soon the other side was up to their own tricks again. Something was missing. I later uncovered four other important issues that legally bind up the judicial officers into either following the law, or walking the plank. Now, with further understanding, I have learned that **in the admiralty, the state waives its immunity seven different ways, through the Suits in Admiralty Act (three ways), through the Bills of Lading Act, through the Admiralty Extension Act, through the Foreign Sovereign Immunity Act, and through the Public Vessels Act.**^{2[2]}

To place a pleading within the admiralty, the jurisdictional statement needs to reference 28 U.S.C. 1333 or 1337. Tax Cases need to reference 28 U.S.C. 2461 and 2463, since all tax revenue cases are done through the admiralty, and are disguised as civil proceedings. Additionally, in the caption of the suit a reference such as “within the admiralty” is required to hold the court accountable. **The courts in the United States have always been open since 1789 to receive admiralty documents, and are still required to do so by authorization of 5: Stat. 516, Ch. 188, §: 5 with the enactment date of August/23/1842, with the authority of the act of the September/24/1789: Chapter: 20.**

The Suits in Admiralty Act^{3[3]} is a law where the United States specifically waives its immunity in three situations: (1) If the admiralty suit involves a vessel [key word] of the United States. Once we look into the definition of the word

^{2[2]} *Benedicts on Admiralty*

^{3[3]} Title: 46: U. S. A. Codes, Appendix, Chapter 20 §§ 742-749,

vessel, we will discover that any of the actors working for the United States are vessels, enabling us properly to apply this provision within our case. In *Benedicts on Admiralty*, one finds that the description of a vessel is so vague, that anything can be a vessel. We are all vessels; human bags carrying “sea water.” “Our blood has the same specific gravity as sea water.”^{4[4]} In the Bible, a woman is described as the “weaker vessel.” (2) Cases that involve cargo belonging to the U.S.. Within the context of our case, when the cargo [the paperwork] of the United States harms us, the United States gives us a blanket waiver of immunity, or three, if the United States could be sued in the admiralty if it were a private party. Since we are going into an international jurisdiction, (a set aside, fenced territory) every time we go into the court, we are entitled to sue the United States in the admiralty if the United States were a private party.

The Bill of Lading Act^{5[5]} is another handy piece of legislation that helps level the playing field, by imposing liability against carriers that misplace, or misdeliver our cargo(paperwork). Cargo can literally be anything. All manners of things are shipped internationally, from cigarette lighters to books. So we are not making any sort of stretch to say our paperwork is cargo. If the bill of lading sufficiently describes the cargo, the carrier is liable for damages caused by mis delivery. A bill of lading is nothing more than a document given to the shipper that gives instructions where the cargo is to be delivered, and what the cargo looks like. For the bill of lading to be effective, it must describe the cargo being transported sufficiently so that the shipper can identify the cargo enough to be held responsible, when the shipper delivers the cargo somewhere else.

A classic case occurred in the 1800s where an American fruit producer sent many barrels of apples from Georgia for delivery in New York. Since the barrels were not sufficiently identified in the bill of lading, and since the barrels were not

^{4[4]} Leonard Tesoro, M.D.

^{5[5]} Title: 49: U. S. Codes, Chapter 147 § 14706,

adequately marked, the shipper was not held responsible when the apples were delivered to Belgium!

The Bill of Lading Act includes a criminal penalty, because the losses suffered by the customers of the shippers can be very great. We use a bill of lading in all of our lawsuits. The bill of lading describes the cargo (the lawsuit), and tells the court clerk to carry the suit into the admiralty jurisdiction of the court.^{6[6]} The clerk is a public vessel, and the carrier. My bill of lading identifies the cargo as the lawsuit, by describing the suit's postal registry number that I have placed on the front page, by describing the paperwork as having an American flag on the paperwork, etc. The bill of lading creates a liability for which the damaged party can recover in a suit if the documents are diverted into another venue. If a carrier is found wanting in due diligence concerning the delivery of the cargo, the liability attaches at the time of the diversion of the documents. The bill of lading therefore takes away the immunity of clerks and judges, if the cargo is not delivered into the admiralty court, and adds criminal penalties for compliance failures.^{7[7]}

The Admiralty Extension Act ^{8[8]} extends the admiralty jurisdiction inland. All states by law have access to the sea. Therefore any land locked country has an easement, so to speak, across other countries in order to get to the sea. All states have an admiralty jurisdiction in all of their courts, and they hate admitting it.

The Foreign Sovereign Immunity Act. ^{9[9]} Any foreign sovereigns are liable for damages while doing business in the United States. This provision has application since the foreign sovereign — the judges, clerks, etc. — that operate on the behalf of a defacto foreign fiction government. Officials are liable for the damages that they commit while doing business in the country.

^{6[6]} Title 49 U. S. Codes, Chapter 801 § 80113

^{7[7]} Title 49 U. S. Codes, Chapter 801 §: 80116.

^{8[8]} Title 46 U. S. A. Appendix, Ch. 19-A § 740.

^{9[9]} Title 28 U. S. codes § 1605

The Public Vessels Act ^{10[10]} is another of the admiralty provisions that are helpful to the litigants of the Universal-Legal-Technology. Since the libelant has been damaged by a judge, police officer, prosecutor, court clerk, or other public vessel, the libelant is authorized to sue for the damages in the venue of the admiralty jurisdiction. **Again, the Public Vessels Act is a law that specifically waives any immunity of the government.**

The Post Office and the International Postal Union

The role of the United States Post Office and the Universal Postal Union became a factor in our lawsuits because of several bankruptcies that the United States has been through over the history of the country. When one declares himself a bankrupt, that person is no longer legally competent to conduct his affairs. The court becomes a fiduciary, and appoints a trustee to oversee the affairs of the bankrupt. It does not matter if the bankrupt is a common man, or a nation; except that a nation still has a right to conduct war. Typically the average person anywhere in the world thinks of their Postal System as a part of, and subservient to, their government. However, the postal system in the United States has a different legal history than one would expect.

The Post Office and Judicial Courts were established *before* the seat of the Government. On Thursday, Sept. 17, 1789 we find written, “Mr. Goodhue, for the committee appointed for the purpose, presented a bill to amend part of the Tonnage act, which was read the first time. The bill sent from the Senate, for the temporary establishment of the Post Office, was read the second and third time, and passed. The bill for establishing the Judicial Courts . . . , **for establishing the seat of**

^{10[10]} Title: 46: U. S. Codes Chapter: 22:§: 781.

government . . . ”^{11[11]} Other references to the Post Office support my theory of the founding forefather’s views:

POST OFFICE. A place where letters are received to be sent to the persons to whom they, are addressed.

2. The post office establishment of the United States, is of the greatest importance to the people and to the government. The constitution of the United States has invested congress with power to establish post offices and post roads. Art. 1, s. 8, n. 7.

3. By virtue of this constitutional authority, congress passed several laws anterior to the third day of March 1825, when an act, entitled "An act to reduce into one the several acts establishing and regulating the post office department," was passed. 3 Story, U. S. 1825. It is thereby enacted, 1. That there be established, the seat of the government of the United States, a general post office, under the direction of a postmaster general.^{12[12]}

We need to take notice where the commas are placed on that last sentence. “That there be established, the seat of the government of the United States, a general post office, under the direction of a postmaster general.” When I set off a clause with commas, I make sure that the sentence makes sense without that clause. Taking out the set-off clause, we read, . . . “the seat of the government of the United States under the direction of a postmaster general.”

The creation of the Post office occurs before the creation of the seat of the government, and is placed in authority *over* the seat of government. What is the effect of these legal techniques? The stated position of an object and the sequence of events play an important role in the Universal-Legal-Technology. The effect is

^{11[11]} *Gales and Seaton’s History* [H. of R.], p. 928.

^{12[12]} Bouvier, John. *Law Dictionary. Adapted to the Constitution and Laws of The United States of America And of the Several States of the American Union, With References to the Civil and Other Systems of Foreign Law.* In the Philadelphia, by the Childs & Peterson. (1856)

that the Government's later bankruptcies in 1859 and 1929 have no legal effect upon the solvent Post-Office. We can make a case that the formation of the Post-Office before the formation of the government's operations is a stroke of dumb luck. Perhaps it is ingenious, since communication has a higher value than government itself. If any government fails, the people still have a need to communicate with one another to form a new government. And to this day, the Post-Office is still solvent and operational, ready to fulfill its duty to help the people in their communications; to set a new government should a complete break down of the existing governmental structures occur in the United States. Sounds like a very good back up plan.

The formation of the Universal Postal Union in 1874 has another legal effect that is very important to the Universal-Legal-Technology. The Universal Postal Union unites member countries into a single, worldwide postal territory.^{13[13]} We have already learned that any litigant is going into international jurisdiction every time he goes to any court. Since the litigant needs to establish that his papers are official, he uses a dollar postage stamp on the face of the first page. The stamps also invoke postal statutes and the Universal Postal Union jurisdiction. Currently in the U. S., the stamp of choice is the "fox" U. S. dollar postage stamp. The stamp is not drawn in a box, making the forty-five-degree lines unnecessary. **The litigant does, however, need to autograph across the stamp, then date the autograph, for two reasons: to comply with postal regulations concerning private mail carriers, and to make a continuance of evidence that the process (paper work) is mail. The continuation of evidence is less of a factor, since the definitions of "mail" and "delivery" can include a clerk at a grocery store handing a customer a receipt for groceries.**

The legal writers were forced to make the definitions wide enough to encompass the private rural carriers, and private advertisers that have placed

^{13[13]} 1997 *Encyclopedia Britannica*

advertisements on our doorsteps, or in our hands. I have thought about this issue a lot, and I did not find any other better alternative. Any loophole would have devastated many consumers, and caused a plethora of other laws to be enacted to cover the loophole.

Additionally, on the back of the first page, we authenticate the authority of the Post-Office with an endorsement, and simultaneously authenticate our identity by placing a postage meter stamp, from a postage meter machine that we have purchased in advance, on the lower quarter of the back of the first page. All commercial papers have endorsements to authenticate their authenticity. Again, we autograph across the meter stamp, and date. The postage meter stamp is better than a regular stamp, and stamps are said to have rendered seals superfluous.^{14[14]}

The purchase of a meter machine requires identification in case the meter machine is tampered with or is stolen. The meter number on the meter stamp can be traced back to the owner (litigant), and therefore authenticates the endorser better than any seal.

What are we doing by placing our paper work into the jurisdiction of the Universal Postal Union? To answer that question, we need to look at the structure and finance of that organization. The official aims and purposes of the **Universal Postal Union (UPU)** are two: to form “a single postal territory for the reciprocal exchange of correspondence”; and “to secure the organization and improvement of the postal services and to promote in this sphere the development of international collaboration.”^{15[15]} “The organization of the circulation of the international mail is based on the freedom of transit, . . . as a result, therefore, only by enduring absolute freedom of transit can the effectual universality of the postal territory be attained. * * * Freedom of transit is guaranteed throughout the entire territory of the union. Administrations may exchange, through the intermediary of one or

¹⁴[¹⁴] Collon, Dominique, Editor. *7000 Years of Seals*. In the London, for the Trustees of the British Museum, by the BRITISH MUSEUM PRESS. 1997. p. 153.

¹⁵[¹⁵] *Universal Postal Union*, p. 73.

more of their number, both closed mails and open mail according to the needs of the traffic and the requirements of the service.”^{16[16]}

“Starting in 1878, the union created a category for territories which were recognized as non independent but which were given all the rights of union membership afforded to clearly independent countries.”^{17[17]} So the members of the union have been operating as sovereign, independent countries, and their currency is based on the gold French Franc. Gold is the acceptable form of money in international jurisdictions, or paper backed by gold.^{18[18]} When we purchase postal money orders, the money order is backed by gold, not the fiat “money” called Federal Reserve Notes. The FRNs, as some call them, are based instead on a promise to pay a debt. The debt is based only upon the “full faith and credit of the United States,” and lacks any intrinsic value.

“Some of the obligations in the convention can, in some states, be introduced into domestic practice without involving a nation’s legislative process or without even reaching the desk of the chief executive.”^{19[19]} The Union also “sets forth the principle that postal administrations are responsible for loss of, theft from, or damage to, insured items, and then goes into detail about exceptions to the principle of responsibility, cessation of responsibility, how the sender is indemnified, and the manner in which responsibility is apportioned between postal administrations.”^{20[20]} “There was only one instance, according to the Belgium delegate, where the bureau would have any power even approximating the right to intervene in the affairs of administrations, that is in the arbitration of disputes, but in this instance the bureau could act only when requested to do so by an

^{16[16]} *Universal Postal Union*, p. 74.

^{17[17]} *Universal Postal Union*, p. 80.

^{18[18]} The backing of paper does not necessarily have to be gold, it can be anything real at market value like timber, oil, minerals, metals, land, etc.

^{19[19]} *Universal Postal Union*, p. 96.

^{20[20]} *Universal Postal Union*, p. 103.

administration.”^{21[21]} The Functions of the International Bureau for the Universal Postal Union include acting “as a clearinghouse for information concerning postal matters. It also functions as a clearinghouse for international postal accounts and as a conciliator and arbitrator in disputes over postal matters between administrations.”^{22[22]}

So what we are doing, by placing the postage stamp on our admiralty paperwork and endorsement on the back of the first page, is using the authority of the sovereignty of the longest surviving, solvent, governmental authority in the United States. Through the admiralty, we are taking the Post-Office and the judicial system back some two hundred years, and simultaneously creating a new territory with all the rights of union membership afforded to clearly independent countries. We are establishing the laws in this new territory with the paper work that we have filed. As we will see later, we are also correcting the errors of the founding forefathers; in that we are also bringing the equal rights that they neglected to give to all the people in the United States. We are eliminating all of the legal deficiencies that handicap the sovereign status of us, the people, within the court. We are guaranteed that all of the parties in the case: the clerk, judge, bailiff, and litigants have the freedom of transit in the admiralty court. If the clerk, judge, or other official fails to deliver our documents as directed, or delay them, or obstruct them, that person is faced with several penalties within the postal statutes and admiralty statutes. The final advantage is that if we are obstructed, because of the transitory nature of the action, we are in the admiralty and can take the case offshore for adjudication in any court in the world.

²¹[²¹] *Universal Postal Union*, p. 186.

²²[²²] *Universal Postal Union*, p. 195.