

Date: 1515, June 15.

Theme: Royal license issued to Francisco de Esquivel to ship six “black slaves that are Christian” from Seville to La Española

Source: PARES, Portal de Archivos Españoles—Archivo General de Indias, INDIFERENTE,419,L.5,F.419V - 1-
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This royal order of mid June of 1515 issuing a license to a Francisco de Esquivel to ship six enslaved blacks, apparently all males, to La Española, either by taking them with himself on a trip or through somebody else authorized by Esquivel, is an example of the type of slave licenses often granted by the Spanish Crown during the initial decades of the sixteenth century to individuals like Esquivel that either traveled to the colony or sent representatives or associates to do business there on their behalf. The only condition to the issuing of the license was that the said black slaves had to have been baptized as Christians at least two years prior to their shipping to La Española.