

## Marvin Gaye heirs take Robin Thicke to court over Blurred Lines

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Two of Marvin Gaye's children have launched legal action against Robin Thicke, alleging his hit song *Blurred Lines* borrows heavily from the late soul singer's *Got To Give It Up*.

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Thicke, his producer Pharrell Williams and collaborator T.I. filed a pre-emptive suit in August, asking a Los Angeles judge to declare that *Blurred Lines* does not infringe on Gaye's 1977 song, after Gaye's heirs first expressed copyright concerns.

Thicke recently said he was eager to reach a settlement to avoid a lengthy court battle, but Gaye's relatives reportedly rejected a six-figure sum.

On Wednesday Nona and Frankie Christian Gaye lodged a countersuit in a California court to pursue their claims.

In court papers obtained by editors at *The Hollywood Reporter*, the Gayes point to interviews by Thicke and Williams in which they admit the singer used *Got To Give It Up* as the inspiration for *Blurred Lines*.

The Gayes also consulted musicologist Judith Finell to compare the two songs, and she stated she found "at least eight substantially similar compositional features" in the two tracks, "far surpassing the similarities that might result from attempts to evoke an 'era' of music or a shared genre".

The Gayes go on to suggest that Thicke has lifted other material from their father for years, listing a second copyright infringement regarding the star's 2011 tune *Love After War*, which they believe is modelled on the late soul star's *After the Dance*.

They are demanding damages, including a cut of profits from both songs.

In the papers filed on Wednesday, the Gayes also allege Thicke's song *Make U Love Me* features "a similar bridge and identical lyrics from Marvin Gaye's *I Want You*".

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This story was found at: <http://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/music/marvin-gaye-heirs-take-robin-thicke-to-court-over-blurred-lines-20131031-2wjsj.html>