

Lo Último

IM Email

Willie Colón demandó a Rubén Blades

El cantante panameño dijo no entender la demanda y juró no volver a subirse en una tarima con el famoso trombonista que lo proyectó en la salsa



Rubén Blades
GETTY IMAGES

Los salseros Willie Colón y Rubén Blades, quienes vivieron juntos tiempos gloriosos en la salsa, están en pleitos legales. El intérprete de "Pedro Navaja", dijo este martes en conferencia de prensa desde Panamá, que nadie le había notificado de la querrela y que se había enterado del asunto por los periódicos.

"Yo sinceramente no entiendo esto", manifestó Blades, quien expresó pesar por la demanda que le puso Colón por supuesto incumplimiento de contrato en un exitoso concierto que realizaron juntos en el 2003 en Puerto Rico, donde celebraron los 25 años del álbum *Siembra*.

El ahora ministro de Turismo de Panamá negó que existiera un acuerdo con Colón en el cual se establecía que para ese espectáculo él se encargaría de todos los aspectos comerciales, incluyendo el cobro de 350 mil dólares a los promotores y el pago de 175 mil dólares al trombonista por su participación. Blades explicó que Arturo Martínez y Robert Morgalo, quienes los representaron tanto a él como a Colón en el espectáculo, recibieron el dinero de los promotores de Puerto Rico y fueron los que malgastaron la mitad del pago.

El panameño, de 58 años, que juró no volver a subirse en una tarima con Colón, de 57, aseguró que no demandó a los dos representantes porque éstos no tenían plata: "Nunca en mi vida me había pasado esto. A mí también me robaron. Nos robaron a los dos", sostuvo Blades.

LA PARTE DE COLÓN

Por su parte, el abogado de Willie Colón, Juan Saavedra Castro, señaló a la agencia de noticias AP, que la demanda civil podría tratarse fuera de los tribunales si Blades le paga lo debido al intérprete de "El Gran varón".

"Colón siempre intentó mantener esto fuera de la luz pública y trató de resolverlo extrajudicialmente y, lamentablemente, no pudo hacerlo", indicó el representante legal del artista, quien explicó que su representado le reclama a Blades, 115 mil dólares, más el pago de intereses y honorarios de abogados.

EXHIBIT "D"
(p- 1)

"Colón siempre intentó mantener esto fuera de la luz pública y trató de resolverlo extrajudicialmente y, lamentablemente, no pudo hacerlo", indicó el representante legal del artista, quien explicó que su representado le reclama a Blades, 115 mil dólares, más el pago de intereses y honorarios de abogados.

Peopleenespanol.com contactó a la oficina de Willie Colón y nos informaron que por asuntos legales el artista no ofrecerá declaraciones.

EXHIBIT "D"
(p. 2)

<http://www.peopleenespanol.com/pespanol/articles/0,22490,1618881,00.html>

5/17/2007

People en Español “Lo Ultimo”

5-17-07

Willie Colón sued Rubén Blades

The Panamanian singer [Ruben Blades] said he didn't understand the claim and he swore not to return to the stage with the famous trombonist [Willie Colón] who launched him into salsa music.

The salsa musicians Willie Colón and Rubén Blades, who lived glorious times together in salsa music, are now in the midst of litigation. The performer of “Pedro Navaja” said this Tuesday in a press conference from Panama that no one notified him of the dispute and that he learned about the matter from newspapers.

“I really don't understand this,” said Blades, who expressed disappointment with Colón's claim that Blades breached a contract for a successful concert that the two performed together in 2003 in Puerto Rico, where they celebrated 25 years since the album “Siembra.”

The current Minister of Tourism of Panama denied that there was an agreement with Colón establishing that for this concert Blades would be responsible for the commercial aspects, including the collection of \$350,000 from the promoters and the payment of \$175,000 to the trombonist [Colón] for his participation. Blades explained that Arturo Martinez and Robert Morgalo, who represented Blades as well as Colón in the show, received the money from the promoters from Puerto Rico and were the ones who misspent half of the money.

The Panamanian, 58 years old, who swore he wouldn't return to the stage with Colón, asserted that he didn't sue the two representatives [Martinez and Morgalo] because they didn't have money: “This had never happened to me in my life. They robbed me too. They robbed both of us,” maintained Blades.

COLÓN'S ROLE

For his part, Willie Colón's attorney, Juan Saavedra Castro, indicated to the news agency AP that the civil case could be settled out of court if Blades would pay what he owes to the performer of “El Gran Varón.”

“Colón always tried to keep this out of the public light and tried to resolve it out of court and, unfortunately, he wasn't able to do it,” said the artist's legal representative, who explained that his client was seeking \$115,000 plus interest and attorney fees.

Peoplespanol.com contacted Willie Colón's office and was informed that for legal reasons the artist would not make a statement.

EXHIBIT “E”

CERTIFICATION OF INTERPRETER

I, MICHAEL B. TOLCOTT, do hereby affirm that I am qualified to translate written Spanish into written English, and do affirm that I prepared the typed English translation of the document written in Spanish that has been attached to this pleading. The document in Spanish is attached as Exhibit "D" and the English translation is attached as Exhibit "E." I further affirm that the document typed in English and prepared by me reflects a true and accurate translation of the original document written in Spanish.

The statements contained in this Certification are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I make this Certification subject to the penalties provided in 18 Pa.C.S.A. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

s/ Michael B. Tolcott
MICHAEL B. TOLCOTT

DATE: 4/24/08

EXHIBIT "F"