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## Copy costs ex-Beatle

NEW YORK (AP) — Ex-Beatle George Harrison must pay \$587,000 in damages to a music company owned by his former manager because he "subconsciously" copied another songwriter's melody in composing the 1971 hit, My Sweet Lord, a federal judge has ruled.

U.S. District Judge Richard Owen arrived at the amount of damages on Feb. 19 in the 10-year-old civil action.

The judge ruled in August, 1976, that the former Beatle plagiarized the melody of composer John Mack's, He's So Fine, which was a popular song in 1963. However, he concluded at the time: "I do not believe he did so deliberately."

The copyright infringement suit was originally filed by Bright Tunes Music Corp., which owned the publishing rights to He's So Fine.

Harrison has to pay the damages to Allen Klein, his former manager. Klein's company ABKCO Music Co., bought the publishing rights for \$587,000 in 1978 and replaced Bright Tunes Music as the plaintiff in the case.

Owen originally set the damages at about \$1.6 million, but lowered the award to the amount paid for the publishing rights because of interference in settlement negotiations by Klein's company before it purchased the rights.