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\$235,000 Offered By Mrs. Onassis To Settle Lawsuit

JEBK

Aristotle Onassis said yesterday that his wife, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, would pay the law firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison \$235,000 today to settle a claim against Mr. Onassis.

Last Thursday, the law firm sued Mr. Onassis to collect legal fees and costs stemming from its services at a 1972 trial to his wife in a suit involving Ronald Galella, a freelance photographer. Legal sources familiar with the case said the \$235,000 in question was just part of the bill.

Martin London, the firm's attorney who brought the suit, said he had no comment on the proposed settlement. But Mr. Onassis's lawyer, Norman Solovay of Holtzman, Wise Shepard, said the settlement was "just a matter of getting things down on paper."

In a telephone interview yesterday at his offices at Central American Steamship Agency, Inc. Mr. Onassis said that his wife, rather than he, was paying the settlement because "I had had nothing to do with the damned thing." Only Mr. Onassis was sued by the law firm.

"Everyone is happy now," said Mr. Onassis. He said he had not paid the bill, which was for services rendered between November, 1971, and July, 1972, "because the appeal just ended."

Mr. Galella's \$1.5-million damage suit against Mrs. Onassis was dismissed in Federal Court on July 5, 1972, after a six-week trial earlier that year. On a counterclaim, Mrs. Onassis was granted an injunction that set limits on the distance that Mr. Galella can approach her or her children to take pictures.

The restrictions were later eased on appeal.