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Whitney Houston already has sole custody of the couple's daughter

## Houston and Brown head for courts

Singer Bobby Brown has gone to court in the US to seek custody of his teenage daughter with Whitney Houston.

Brown and his lawyer has asked a court in California to dismiss a judgment issued in December that ended the couple's marriage and granted Houston sole custody of 14-year-old Bobbi Kristina.

Brown was not given enough time to respond to Houston's divorce filings, his lawyer Stacy Phillips said.

In court filings released last week, Brown claimed Houston has kept him from seeing their daughter and that he deserved custody because he had been her primary caretaker.

Judge Claudia Silbar ordered Brown and Houston to argue their case at an October 22 hearing before she decides who will get custody.

"I cannot determine credibility on paperwork," judge Silbar said. "This really boils down to credibility."

Houston's lawyer, Stephen Kolodny, said Brown can contest the custody award or make arrangements to visit his daughter, but he can't change the divorce judgment.

"I just miss my daughter," Brown told People.com. "The goal is to see her a lot more and to be involved in the decision making in her life, the places she goes, the people she hangs out with. All of that."

Houston and Brown married in 1992, when she was at the height of her fame as a Grammy-winning superstar known for hits such as I Will Always Love You. Brown, a former member of New Edition, gained solo fame with singles such as Don't Be Cruel and My Perogative.

During their 14-year marriage, Brown was arrested for drug and alcohol-related offences, and Houston twice entered drug rehab programmes.

