

The Qualified Immunity Waltz

Lyrics and Music: Gary McGath, Copyright 2021

A man poured lots of gasoline
Upon himself, as I had seen.
I put a taser to the wick,
His body turned to ashes quick.

The court could see no problem there.
To burn him up was only fair.
No one had said in training class
To not torch people soaked in gas. [1]

Chorus:

Qualified immunity
Guarantees you can't sue me.
Sorry, sucker, I go free,
'Cause I got immunity.

I stole a quarter million bucks.
The ones who sued me had no luck.
There was no rule the judge could cite
That grabbing money violates rights.

How could the plaintiff be so brash
As to object to snatching cash?
You can't ask cops to take the time
To learn that stealing is a crime. [2]

Chorus

We gassed a peaceful protest crowd,
And suing me is not allowed,
The reason you can quickly draw:
The A.G. is above the law.

You common people, understand
You're in the way of what we planned.
The court has said there is no doubt,
You can't sue when we gas you out. [3]

Chorus

It's been decreed by our top court
That I'm not liable for a tort
Unless some precedents forbid
Specific'ly the thing I did. [4]

So though you've lost a home or friend,
There's nothing I need to defend.
The law was made for common folk
And I can treat it like a joke.

Chorus

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A man poured lots of gas-o - line Up - on him - self, as I had seen. I

10 put a ta - ser to the wick, His bo - dy turned to ash - es quick. The

18 court could see no prob - lem there. To burn him up was on - ly fair. No

26 one had said in train - ing class To not torch peo - ple soaked in gas. Qua - li - **Chorus**

35 fied im - mun - i - ty Guar - an - tees you can't sue me. Sor - ry, suck - er, I go

45 free, 'Cause I got im - mun - i - ty.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. Chords are indicated by letters G, A, Bm, and D above the staff. The lyrics are written below the staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of the final line.