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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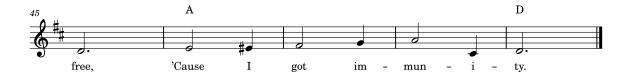












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