

Dissolve to

- 1 two DEPUTY SHERIFFS escorting a giant PRISONER along a COURTHOUSE BASEMENT CORRIDOR.

Cut to

a full shot of the PRISONER who is a bearded ugly desperado dressed in a suit with his hands shackled to his waist.

DEFENDER'S VOICE OVER
Richard Leon Koch is a client of the public defender's office because he's stupid.

Cut to

- 2 the DEFENDER stuffing books and files in his briefcase on his desk in his OFFICE. (When he looks toward the camera he speaks directly to the audience.)

That's a fact. Intelligent criminals have the money to hire private lawyers. Stupid criminals don't have any money. So they're entitled to have a public defender represent them. Let me give you an example of Koch's stupidity. One of the first things he did after he was arrested for armed robbery was confess.

Cut to

- 3 a close shot of KOCH'S ankles in leg irons and follow them along the CORRIDOR.

According to his confession he waited outside a liquor store until it was ready to close—

Cut to

4 a LIQUOR STORE exterior at night from the point of view of somebody approaching the entrance; camera continues inside and stops on a full shot of a long-haired KID with thick glasses behind the counter writing something.

—then he walked in and pointed a little silver pistol at the kid behind the counter and he said to the kid, "Give me the money."

Cut to

5 KOCH'S ankles coming to a halt in front of the doors to an ELEVATOR, then

The kid looked at Koch and smiled and went back to what he was doing—

pull back to reveal

a DEPUTY pushing the button as KOCH turns his head and smiles hideously at nothing.

—whereupon Koch slugged him with the pistol—

Cut to

6 a glossy still of the KID'S glasses shattered over the counter.

—and broke his eardrum.

Cut to

7 the DEFENDER wearing a pained expression as he continues.

Koch then grabbed fifty-six bucks from the open cash drawer and split.

Cut to

8 the ELEVATOR doors opening

A week later according to

and the DEPUTIES escorting KOCH in.

the police reports an anonymous chick telephoned and told the detectives their man was—

Cut to

9 A mobbed COURTROOM and the DEFENDER at the defense table next to KOCH glaring at—

—Richard Leon Koch.

cut to

—the KID with a bandaged ear fidgeting in the witness stand.

Cut back to

10 the DEFENDER in his OFFICE.

So, of course, the detectives went right out and picked up Koch and brought him to the station and got directly to the point by telling him that he may as well level with them because the kid identified his mug shot. Which was a blatant lie because the kid only said the mug shot resembled the robber.

He picks up his briefcase and starts out.

Cut to

11 opening ELEVATOR doors and the DEPUTIES escorting KOCH out and down another CORRIDOR.

But Koch The Dummy didn't know that. So Koch The Dummy confessed.

Cut to

12 the DEFENDER approaching through a narrow INNER-

HALLWAY leading from his OFFICE. He passes another ATTORNEY who turns into a cubicle, then

cut to

- 13 him entering a WAITING ROOM crowded with DEFENDANTS. A couple try to get his attention but he keeps going and is out the door and

cut to

- 14 him walking down another CORRIDOR in the COURTHOUSE.

If Koch would channel his intellect away from crime and do something legitimate he would be a failure at whatever he did.

Cut to

- 15 the DEPUTIES taking KOCH into the COURTROOM, where they are met by two more DEPUTIES.

Cut to

KOCH'S FAMILY in the second row of an otherwise empty audience section. His WIFE is a biker's fat mama holding her soiled four-year-old DAUGHTER, and his MOTHER and FATHER look like simple folk in church clutching their bibles.

I take that back. He knows how to ride a motorcycle. When he's not in custody he's a first class biker.

Cut to

KOCH making funny faces at his DAUGHTER as the DEPUTIES remove his iorns and shackles and

cut to

an angular female DISTRICT ATTORNEY watching him from her seat at the prosecution table.

Anyway, the district attorney wasn't interested in any guilty plea bargain that ruled out state prison.

Cut back to

KOCH unshackled. He crosses and sits at the defense table.

And Koch wasn't interested in pleading guilty unless state prison was ruled out.

Cut to

16 the DEFENDER riding the ELEVATOR. It stops and he gets off where KOCH did, then he walks down the CORRIDOR.

So that meant there would be a jury trial—which is what I do—and I had to do two things, I quickly had to file—

Cut to

17 the CLERK and the REPORTER entering the COURTROOM from a doorway behind the bench and taking their positions respectively behind the CLERK'S desk and at the REPORTER'S stenotype machine.

—two critical pretrial motions over the very strong objections of Madam District Attorney.

Cut back to

18 the DEFENDER walking.

The first motion I filed was to get the court to order a lineup before the

kid had a chance to see Koch singled out as the robber at his preliminary hearing. The motion was granted—

Cut to

19 six identical BEARDED GIANTS in jail clothes filing onto a stage behind a transparent screen in the SHERIFF'S STATION LINEUP ROOM and

—and I put the lineup together myself by recruiting some of Koch's biker friends and I have to tell you in all modesty they looked like six identical duplicate clones up there ...

cut to

the bandaged KID looking at them stumped, then

cut back to

the GIANTS just standing there stupid and ugly.

...and the kid couldn't make an identification.

Cut to

20 the DEFENDER walking along the CORRIDOR and arriving at the door to the COURTROOM.

The second motion I filed was to get the court to suppress the confession. It just so happened that the detectives in their zeal got Koch The Dummy to confess so fast none of them had informed him of his four Constitutional rights under Miranda versus Arizona. So that pretrial motion was granted, too.

Cut to

21 the JUDGE making a grand
entrance in flowing robes
into the COURTROOM as a
DEPUTY barks

As the JUDGE sits in his
big chair

pull back to reveal

the whole COURTROOM showing
the DEPUTIES, the CLERK,
KOCH, the DEFENDER, the
REPORTER and the DISTRICT
ATTORNEY, all in position
ready to start.

Cut to

the JUDGE looking around,
after which he says to the
REPORTER

cut to

—the REPORTER'S hands
pressing out the JUDGE'S
words on the stenotype
machine.

Cut back to

the JUDGE. He says to a
DEPUTY

Cut to and follow

DEPUTY

Remain seated, court is
again in session.

JUDGE

Let the record show that
the defendant and his
counsel—

—and the district at-
torney are present.

Bring in the jury.

the DEPUTY crossing the
COURTROOM to a closed door
on the other side and

cut to

the DEFENDER and KOCH—who
is serious now—seated at
the defense table watching
the DEPUTY cross, then

cut back to

the DEPUTY knocking on the
door. It cracks open and
he says to the face of an OLD
WOMAN

DEPUTY
Judge is ready—

at which time we hear an
ear-piercing scream and we

cut to

KOCH'S WIFE trying to silence
the DAUGHTER'S screaming. The
WIFE has some success but the
DAUGHTER is heard whimpering
and babbling and jabbering
throughout the rest of this
scene.

Cut to

the OLD WOMAN solemnly lead-
ing the eleven other JURORS
to their seats in the jury
box. There is one OLD MAN
and the rest are OLD WOMEN.

Cut to

the small smile forming on
the DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S ruby
lips, then

cut to

the JUDGE. He asks the JUR-
ORS

JUDGE
Who's your foreman,
ladies and gentlemen?

Cut to

the OLD MAN, rising

OLD MAN
I am, your honor.

Cut to

the JUDGE and the OLD MAN

JUDGE
Has the jury reached
a verdict?

OLD MAN
We have, your honor.

Cut to

KOCH staring at—

JUDGE'S VOICE OVER
Please present it to
the court.

cut and zoom in tight on

—the sheet of white paper in
the OLD MAN'S palsied hand.

Cut to

the DEPUTY taking the paper
from the OLD MAN and cross-
ing toward the CLERK.

Cut to

the DEFENDER and KOCH, their
eyes riveted to the paper
passing in front of them.

Cut to

a tight closeup of the paper and follow it as the DEPUTY continues across and hands it to the CLERK who date-stamps it and

cut to

the DEFENDER and

cut back to

the paper as the DEPUTY takes it from the CLERK and hands it up to the JUDGE.

Cut to

the DISTRICT ATTORNEY studying the JURORS.

Cut to

the JUDGE studying the paper.

Cut to

the DEFENDER studying the JUDGE and

cut to

KOCH'S FAMILY studying the JUDGE.

Cut to

the JUDGE. He hands the paper down to the DEPUTY and says to the OLD MAN

JUDGE
Read the verdict.

Cut to

another tight closeup of the paper in the DEPUTY'S hand as he crosses and gives it to the OLD MAN.

Cut to

the DEFENDER with his heart in his mouth and

cut back to

the OLD MAN who puts on his glasses and clears his throat and reads

People of the State of California, plaintiff, versus Richard Leon Koch, defendant.

Cut to

KOCH, then

cut to

the paper in the palsied hands of the OLD MAN.

Superior Court number three two six one seven. Verdict.

Cut to

the DEFENDER, then

cut to

the OLD MAN.

We the jury find the de-
fendant ...

Cut to

KOCH'S MOTHER and FATHER and
WIFE and jabbering DAUGHTER.

...Richard Leon Koch ...

Cut to

the DISTRICT ATTORNEY listen-
ing carefully.

Cut to

the REPORTER'S hands touch-
ing the keys.

...of the charge of armed
robbery ...

Cut to

the DEFENDER and

...as alleged in ...

cut to

the OLD MAN and

...the information ...

cut back to

the DEFENDER and when he
hears those beautiful words
...a mighty sigh of relief!

...not guilty.

Cut to