

IV. Film Script

Paws in Prison: A Second Chance

Video	Audio
Interior Maximum Security Unit	<p>Music fades up: <i>Virtues Inherited Vices Past</i></p> <p>Narrator: In 2011, an unconventional idea was introduced to the Arkansas Department of Corrections.</p> <p>(Nats of prison)</p>
Cut to CU prisoner	Inmate Jeff Tyler SOT: I was surprised when I heard dogs are coming to the ADC, this was not something we expected.
<p>Cut to inmate teaching dog</p> <p>Cut to Carrie Kessler/Volunteer Trainer</p>	Narrator: Paws in Prison created a partnership between the ADC and volunteers (Nats of Carrie Kessler/Volunteer Trainer: Can I look at her teeth?) who scour local animal shelters with a mission to rescue dogs that may not have been given a second chance.
Cut to dog training	Inmate Jeff Tyler SOT: Every single dog we received, except two, they were strays, come from a kill shelter.
<p>Cut to dog crate</p> <p>Cut to Inmates/dog in barracks</p> <p>Cut to dog training</p> <p>Cut to dog coming out of crate meeting inmates</p>	<p>Narrator: Those dogs go from death row at the shelter, to a temporary life behind bars. For 8 weeks select inmates live with these animals, care for them, train them and rehabilitate them so they may be adopted.</p> <p>(Nats: Roll over.)</p> <p>The dogs aren't the only ones benefitting from the program...</p>
	Inmate Jeff Tyler SOT: Dogs didn't just change me, they changed my prison. Just like I hope someday I'm able to get a second chance from society, I'm glad I'm able to give a dog a second chance.
<p>Fade to Prison Bars</p> <p>Fade in title: Paws in Prison: A Second Chance</p>	Music fades down
<p>Fade to prison exteriors</p> <p>Cut to dog entering prison</p>	<p>Music fades up: <i>Grim Desert Aftermath</i></p> <p>(Nats dogs barking)</p>
<p>Cut to CU prison guard patch</p> <p>Cut to dog getting ready to meet other dogs</p>	Inmate Nimous Burrow: This is going to be my first dog I ever train. It's just like meeting someone new.
Cut to Rebel in room with dogs/inmates	Narrator: Rebel is getting ready to meet his new trainers, two prisoners sentenced to hard time at the Maximum Security Unit.

<p>Cut to Inmates Burrow and Miller Cut to CU tattoo</p>	<p>(Nats dogs meeting)</p> <p>Narrator: Like all new inmates, the first day behind bars is an adjustment.</p> <p>(Nats dogs meeting)</p> <p>Narrator: Inmate Nimous Burrow has been locked up for 13 years.</p>
<p>Cut to Burrow Interview</p> <p>Take full page graphic mug shot. Fade in name, location, charges</p> <p>Cut to Burrow interview</p>	<p>Inmate Nimous Burrow SOT: I was 18 when I came down. . I feel like I If hadn't come to the pen I'd be dead already by the way I was living, my lifestyle. I wouldn't listen to anybody I was doing it my way or no way. I guess I was in everything before I came over to the Max: gangs, acting wild, smoking weed doing drugs. I'm in here for murder, 1st degree murder change I'm in here for a reason I'm doing my time.</p>
<p>Cut to inmates with dogs behind bars</p> <p>Cut to Burrow interview</p> <p>Cut to Inmates entering barracks</p>	<p>Narrator: For much of this sentence, didn't have a lot of privileges. Visit with his family took place behind glass.</p> <p>Inmate Nimous Burrow SOT: I've changed a lot in 5 years.</p> <p>Narrator: He's had to in order to be accepted into the paws in prison program. Inmates must remain class one for a whole year before they can partner up and receive a puppy. That means no fights, no cigarettes, no drugs. In a place like the maximum security unit, towing the line can be difficult.</p> <p>(Nats of door closing)</p>
<p>Cut to Mug shot Dissolve in info about Inmate Tyler</p> <p>Cut to Inmate Tyler interview</p> <p>Cut to dogs meeting</p>	<p>Inmate Jeff Tyler SOT: When I came in here, I was 160 pounds. I felt like I had to prove something and I didn't like anybody. Prison mentality if you have an issue you solve it usually with "these," having a dog you learn to deal with it with "this"</p> <p>(Nats rowdy dogs meeting)</p>
	<p>Narrator: The dogs in the program have to learn the same lesson.</p> <p>(Nats growling)</p> <p>Narrator: Tempers flare when a new dog joins the group.</p> <p>(Nats barking)</p>
<p>Cut to dogs meeting</p> <p>Cut to Inmate Burrow with new dog</p>	<p>Narrator: Inmate Burrow is excited to get to know this yellow lab. He hopes the two will bond over the next eight weeks. Burrow is new to the program and will rely on his partner and program</p>

	veteran, Inmate Damon Miller. Together they will attempt to turn skittish “Rebel” into an adoptable dog.
Cut to Inmate Miller interview	Inmate Damon Miller SOT: He’s real hyper but most of ‘em are when they first get here. I like that he’s a lab, very smart, easy to train.
Cut to CU of prisoners	Narrator: Many of the men at the maximum security unit are in prison for rape and murder charges. Others end up here because they can’t behave in prison. Many, like Inmate Miller, will never leave.
Cut to Inmate Miller Interview Cut to mug shot Dissolve name, location, charge information	Inmate Damon Miller SOT: I’m in here for double homicide. I was just under the influence of methamphetamine. I’d been up a long time. Snapped like a light switch turned on and off. I made a horrible mistake.
Cut to dog on prisoner lap	Narrator: Miller says this program is the one thing in prison that reminds him what it’s like to be human.
Cut to Miller interview	Music fades up: <i>Fields So Green, Part 2</i> Inmate Damon Miller SOT: I remember the first night I got my dog I took him outside, it was dark, cold, stars were out. I looked up and thought for this little bit of freedom right here, it’s worth getting in the program”
Cut to shots of dogs/prisoners	Music up full
Cut to prison exteriors Cut to prisoners in training room with Kessler	(Nats of trainer entering room) Trainer Carrie Kessler: Hey guys! So we have some new dogs I haven’t met. Introduce me, please!
Cut to CU of dog Cut to Kessler making rounds	Narrator: Each week, dog trainer Carrie Kessler makes her rounds at the prison. (Nats: I’m seeing some progress and I’m anxious to see how the new dogs are doing.) Narrator: She is responsible for mentoring the inmates, showing them how to train the animals they’ve been assigned.

<p>Cut to Polo Cut to Kessler</p> <p>Cut to Polo and inmate working</p>	<p>Carrie Kessler SOT: This is this dog, truly his last chance, he had been returned from 2 different fosters. His main problem was he had no training, no manners. He would jump on people and pull them down knock them down.”</p> <p>Narrator: Kessler volunteers her time each week to meet with the inmates and check on each dog’s progress. She’s seen Polo come a long way.</p> <p>(Nats: Kessler: Let’s see polo work. Inmate Lee: Sit. Down Kessler: Good job, Mr. Lee. That is beautiful, what a vast improvement. One of the things we’ve been encouraging them to do is work as a team.</p>
<p>Cut to prisoners</p>	<p>Narrator: A skill many inmates have trouble exercising within the confines of the prison.</p>
<p>Cut to Tyler interview</p> <p>Cut to bars</p> <p>Cut to Tyler interview</p>	<p>Inmate Jeff Tyler SOT: In prison you close yourself off because it’s the safest thing to do. I was in isolation on Christmas eve 1994. My mom and dad wrote me a letter saying they wanted nothing to do with me ever again. For 22 years they haven’t spoken to me. Do you know what it’s like to not have a visit in prison or have somebody write you or tell you they love you? That’s the most depressing thing in the world.</p>
<p>Cut to prisoners training dogs</p>	<p>Narrator: Prison wardens say they can see the positive effect the program is having on the prison. In the last 3 years, they’ve seen fewer fights and a higher overall morale at the Maximum Security Unit. (Nats: laughing) Inmates may be teaching the dogs, but they are learning a thing or two as well.</p>
<p>Cut to Tyler interview</p>	<p>Inmate Jeff Tyler SOT: I’ve learned how to be a human being again, I’ve learned how to love, I’ve learned how to make friends again. I’ve learned how to trust I’ve learned how to open myself up to receive love. Twenty-two years I’ve lived in prison and love is not a main factor. But a dog, once it loves you, that’s the greatest feeling in the world.</p>

Cut to Tyler with "Moose"	Narrator: Inmate Tyler is serving five life sentences for kidnapping, rape and aggravated robbery. He says his experience with the program has helped keep him out of trouble and in line.
	Inmate Jeff Tyler SOT: I've been blessed that I was able to change my life around and if it wasn't for these dogs, I probably wouldn't have done that.
	Narrator: Tyler's last dog, moose, holds a special place in his heart. Instead of being adopted to a family, moose now lives in a nursing home. He lifts the spirits of residents there.
Cut to pictures of "Moose"	Kessler SOT: Alright a moose report! He's doing great, his tail is like a propeller, visiting people in wheelchairs. One of the women told me with tears in her eyes this was finally going to feel like a home.
Cut to Burrow and "Rebel"	Narrator: Inmates Burrow and Miller have spent the last 18 days bonding with Rebel. After getting to know his personality they decided to start calling him Rowdy.
CU "Rowdy"	Inmate Nimous Burrow SOT: we figured we'd change the name because people might take rebel as being a racist because we live in the south. Figured it would be easier to adopt him out. Music fades up: <i>The 49th Street Galleria</i>
Cut to Rowdy in a corner	Narrator: But the team faces challenges that reach beyond the dog's name. (Nats: He's a dog that's had some abuse) Narrator: Rowdy cowers in a corner when approached by strangers. Trainers believe he was previously held in a backyard, beaten with a tennis racket.
Cut to Burrow interview Cut to Rowdy	Inmate Nimous Burrow SOT: He's my buddy. Makes me sad. When you're in the penitentiary you don't get attached. I'm worried he might not get adopted because he's scary. Music fades out
Cut to Tucker Unit. "Rusty" runs down stairs with leash. Inmate George French follows	(Nats: Wanna go outside?) Narrator: Seven Arkansas prisons are now part of the paws program. Inmates at the Tucker Unit have participated for about 9 months. They have a little more freedom with their dogs.

Cut to Warden Williams interview	Warden Stephen Williams SOT: Most of these guys here are short term inmates, ready to go home for a second chance.
Cut to Inmate French with “Rusty” walking the halls of Tucker	Narrator: Like inmate George French. After serving seven years of a ten year sentence, he’s eligible for parole in august.
Cut to French Interview	Inmate George French SOT: As I’m getting closer to going home, it’s starting to come into my heart, what I’ve caused everyone else by what I did. I was living the American dream. I had a family I had a son. I write my son every week for seven years. I ain’t missed a week. I don’t get no response or nothing.
Cut to French and “Rusty” in cell	(Nats: Sit. Shake)
Cut to mug shot Dissolve name, location, charges information	Narrator: Inmate French is serving time for domestic crimes against his ex-wife. He says his prison term and the program have allowed him to take responsibility for his actions and try to make amends.
Cut to Inmate French and “Rusty” in cell	Inmate French SOT: This paws in prison program helps you become who you really are. Helps you show who you really are
Cut to Tucker Unit dogs training	Narrator: But it’s not easy. Only a select few inmates qualify for paws in prison.
CU dogs CU trainers	Inmate French SOT: In order for you to be in the program you have to be trusted
Cut to various shots of dogs and inmates	Narrator: Inmates are interviewed and brought before a classifications committee. Wardens don’t look closely at the charges inmates face, unless they have a history of violence toward animals. Once accepted, inmates must follow all the rules or they will be kicked out of the program.
Cut to inmates working with dogs	Inmate French SOT: Everything about you has to be in accordance with them or they’ll say give me that dog somebody else will get that dog. You got to be on your A-game.
Cut to inmates sitting with dogs	Narrator: Prison wardens admit they were a bit skeptical of the program at first. They worried about animal abuse and chaos in the prison.
Cut to Warden Outlaw interview	Warden Steve Outlaw SOT: First thought inmate gets a dog and train ‘em to attack officers. Carry out for potty call but someone would use it to escape. A lot of doubt at first.
Cut to Tucker Unit Wide shot dogs and inmates	Narrator: But so far, wardens at the Maximum Security Unity and Tucker say they’ve seen only a few problems with the program. Some inmates don’t like dogs, others may want to sabotage the program.

Cut to Outlaw interview	Warden Outlaw SOT: We only got rid of one handler that was accused of abusing dogs. I think he thinks he's going to get back in the program but he's not he's out for good.
Cut to Williams interview	Warden Williams SOT: I heard rumors of another inmate throwing shoes at a dog so we pulled him out and moved him to another barracks just to avoid problems.
Cut to dogs and trainers	Narrator: But they say the positive aspects greatly outweigh the possible negatives, even though there may be some backlash from the community.
	Warden Williams SOT: I have people say, why would you do this? Lock 'em up in a cell, throw away the key. You can't manage people like that. They're going to become that monster that society sees out there Music fades up: <i>The 49th Street Galleria</i>
Cut to dogs and inmates CU dogs playing CU inmates smiling MS prison guards	Inmate French SOT: You see them people that ain't said nothing in 25 years start talking. They start feeding them their food so them dogs softened them up. That tells you what this program does. I'm talking about killers, people with four or five life sentences. So that tells you how powerful this program really is
Cut to French behind bars	Warden Williams SOT: Doing time is hard. It gives them motivation to get up every day and know they are making a difference.
Shots of French and "Rusty" going outside to play	Narrator: Inmate French says he feels like a different man after being part of the program. He's getting ready to say goodbye to his latest pal. Rusty is getting out of prison and going to live with a family.
	Inmate French SOT: The people that's gonna get Rusty sent some friends to look at him and the little boy was five years old the first question he asked was does Rusty roll over
	Narrator: That request struck an emotional chord, reminding French what he has missed while being in prison, giving him a glimpse of what life used to be like outside the prison walls
Cut to French interview Cut to "Rusty" outside Dissolve to graduation day	Inmate French SOT: When I came here my son was just four years old. We had just gotten him his first dog. Before I could train that dog to do all types of things we wind up here going thru all this. It kind of hurt me when that little boy asked if he could roll over. I want to make it my business to teach that dog to roll over. Music fades out

<p>Dissolve into graduation day Cut to French and "Rusty"</p> <p>French takes Rusty through obstacle course</p> <p>Rusty rolls over</p> <p>Cut to crowd reaction</p> <p>Cut to roll over</p>	<p>Music fades in: <i>Air Hockey Saloon</i> Narrator: It's graduation day! A chance to show off, and say goodbye.</p> <p>(Nats: French with Rusty.)</p> <p>Narrator: Inmate French takes Rusty through an obstacle course.</p> <p>(Nats: obstacle course)</p> <p>Narrator: Then, it's time for one last trick.</p> <p>(Nats: roll over.... Hahaha)</p> <p>Narrator: It's an emotional end to an eight week relationship between a prisoner and his dog. Even though the young boy who will foster Rusty couldn't be at the ceremony, Inmate French made good on his promise.</p>
<p>Cut to handing Rusty off to new family</p>	<p>Inmate French SOT: Her son came to see Rusty and the first thing he asked will he roll over, so we did.</p>
<p>CU Rusty</p>	<p>Narrator: Rusty's journey is just beginning. Before he came to prison, he was likely going to be euthanized. Now, he's headed home.</p>
<p>Cut to woman picking up Rusty</p>	<p>Woman picking up Rusty: Rusty is going to Canada! We're taking care of him for a few days he's flying to Canada on Friday.</p>
<p>Cut to French saying goodbye</p>	<p>Inmate French SOT: He's gonna have a good life</p>
<p>Cut to inmate with dog and little girl</p>	<p>Music fades in: <i>Ascent of Sham</i> Narrator: As soon as the dogs are handed off to their new families, the inmates prepare to start the process again.</p>
<p>Cut to Dogs in crates being rolled in</p>	<p>Inmate French SOT: We are fixing to get out new dogs. They are bringing them in</p>
<p>CU crate Cut to Inmates looking at crates</p> <p>New dog gets out of crate</p>	<p>Narrator: Inmate French has no idea what waits inside this crate, but he knows the dog will be his responsibility, and it is a big responsibility. (Nats of dog getting out of crate. This is Sweet Pea!)</p>
<p>Cut to other dogs</p> <p>CU French and new dog CU Inmate Cut to working with "Sweet Pea"</p>	<p>Narrator: She's three years old. And she, like the other dogs, will have to get used to her new temporary home. (Nats: ooohh she's scared.) Narrator: Bonding begins right away. Already there's progress and potential. The next eight weeks will determine the outcome of her second chance. Music fades out</p>

Cut to Inmate Miller working with "Rowdy"	(Nats: Bow. Good boy.) Narrator: Rowdy's fate has already been determined. He no longer hides in a corner.
Cut to Burrow Interview Cut to Burrow in barracks with "Rowdy"	Inmate Nimous Burrow SOT: When he got here he was scared, no housebroken or nothing. He's come a long way. (Nats working with dog) Music fades up: <i>No End Ave.</i> Inmate Nimous Burrow SOT: I'm gonna miss him. He's become my friend.
CU Rowdy	Narrator: Soon he will travel to his new home. A family has adopted him. Now Rowdy is going to get his second chance.
Slow Motion Rowdy	Inmate Nimous Burrow SOT: Glad I got a chance to help save him. Hope to help save the next one, too.
Fade to Black	
Roll Credits	