**Defense Preparation**

*Complete the following script in preparation for your trial. Make sure to include what you will be doing in the “actions” column. Public speaking should include more than just talking. Be creative, dramatic, and interactive! In order to “win” the trial, the prosecution must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that there is probable cause and that they have obtained multiple pieces of evidence that link your client to the crime scene. Your job is to disprove or discredit the evidence that they present.*

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| **Topic** | **Script** | **Actions** |
| Opening Statement | Start with an anecdote, quote, or question that will get the jury’s attention. Then preview what you will be presenting to the jury. What was the supposed crime? How will you prove that your client has been falsely accused? (Either by proving someone else is more likely to have committed the crime or that the evidence what not analyzed correctly or a combination of the two.) |  |
| #1 Review | Review a claim from the prosecution’s crime scene or forensics report that you will be disputing. |  |
| #1  Counterargument | Present the jury your counterargument so that they begin to doubt the evidence presented by the prosecution. |  |
| #2 Review | Review another claim from the prosecution’s crime scene or forensics report that you will be disputing. |  |
| Evidence #2 | Present the jury your counterargument so that they continue to doubt the evidence presented by the prosecution. |  |
| #3 Review | Review yet another claim from the prosecution’s crime scene or forensics report that you will be disputing. |  |
| #3 Counterargument | Present the jury your counterargument. The jury should now have some serious concerns about the case against your client. |  |
| #4 Review | Review one more claim from the prosecution’s crime scene or forensics report that you will be disputing. |  |
| Evidence #4 | Drop the hammer! Give the final and most important counterargument that will establish reasonable doubt about your client’s involvement with the crime. |  |
| Closing Statement | Review the evidence and prove that your client was falsely accused. |  |