**Prosecuting Attorney**

**Opening Statement Template**

Some things to remember when writing your opening statement:

* State the defendant’s/respondent’s name, age, and what offense/behavior led to his/her being sent to youth court.
* Indicate the seriousness of the offense/behavior and how his/her behavior as affected his/herself and others (e.g., the victim(s), his/her family, the community). For example, what type of financial, emotional, or physical harm did the defendant’s/respondent’s actions cause him/herself, victims, or others.
* Either state your recommended disposition, or let the jury/judge panel know that you will be asking for a specific disposition at the conclusion of this case.

Write your opening statement in the space below, save it on your computer, and then print it and take it with you to the youth court hearing.

# **Opening Statement**

**\*\* IMPORTANT: After you finish writing your opening statement, save it on your computer’s hard drive so you can go back and make changes if necessary and can print it when it is time to go to youth court.\*\***

Once you finish your opening statement, [click here](http://www.youthcourt.net/Youth/prep4check.htm) to go to a checklist that will help you do a quick assessment of the content of your opening statement.