

# 4.6 Practicing

## The Class Hearing

### Step 1: Decide Roles

Review the descriptions of the team roles and assign each team member a role. There is only one attorney, but you may have any number of people in other roles.



**Attorney:** \_\_\_\_\_

- Prepare opening statement to introduce information about the drug and what you want to show about the drug.
- Prepare questions to ask witnesses, such as: What is your name? What relationship do you have with one or more drug users? How have you seen the drug affect your loved one/friend/acquaintance? How did the person's drug use affect you/your friendship/your family/your community? What message would you like to leave the court about drug use?
- Prepare closing statement to summarize your argument against the use of the drug.

**Family Member(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

- Decide your relationship to the drug user (e.g., brother or sister, child, husband or wife, parent, grandparent).
- Consider the effects of the drug use on the user, you, and your family. Make up a realistic story based on what you have learned about the drug from your research.
- Plan how to answer the attorney's questions. See above.
- Testify during the hearing about the harmful effects of the drug.

**Friend(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

- Decide your relationship to the drug user (e.g., friend from school, work colleague, neighbor).
- Consider the effects of the drug use on the user and your friendship. Make up a realistic story based on what you have learned about the drug from your research.
- Plan how to answer the attorney's questions. See above.
- Testify during the hearing about the harmful effects of the drug.

**Community Member(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

- Decide your role in the community (e.g., police officer, emergency room doctor or nurse, teacher, neighbor, drug counselor, local business owner).
- Determine whether you will testify about the effects of the drug on one user in particular or about the broader effects of the drug on the community. For example, you might be a doctor or nurse who has treated many drug users.
- Plan how to answer the attorney's questions. See above.
- Testify during the hearing about the harmful effects of the drug.