Worksheet: Involuntary Medication Hearing Preparation

Think about the following questions and how you will answer them at the hearing:

Do you know why your doctor thinks you need medication?

What behaviors or problems in the community led you to be in the hospital?

Could medications address those behaviors or problems?

What other treatment might help address those behaviors or problems?

What medication does your doctor think you should take?

What are the possible benefits if you take this medication?

What are the possible risks if you take this medication?

Have you taken this medication before?

How did it make you feel?

What side effects did you experience from that medication?

Do you want to take this medication? Why or why not? Explain:

Have you taken any other medications? What were they? How did they make you feel?

What side effects did you experience from those medications?

Do you have any serious physical medical conditions?

How would the medications affect your physical medical conditions?

Is there a different medication you would be willing to try?

What other types of treatments would you like to try that you think might work better for you?

Has anyone accused you of being violent in the community?

Has anyone accused you of being violent while in the hospital?

If so, do you think taking medication would have an effect on whether you can avoid being violent?

How will refusing medication affect your:

Social life?

Legal situation?

Family life?

Physical health?

Mental health?

Ability to leave the hospital?

How would taking medication affect your:

Social life?

Legal situation?

Family life?

Physical health?

Mental health?

Ability to leave the hospital?

Are there any records (medical or legal) that would help you show that you can make your own treatment decisions, or that the medication is not the best treatment for you? If so, what are they?

Are there any people who could testify that you can make your own treatment decisions or that the medication is not the best treatment for you? If so, who are they?

What do you think would happen if you left the hospital without any medication?

Is there anything else you would like to tell the judge?