## **Opening Statement Worksheet**

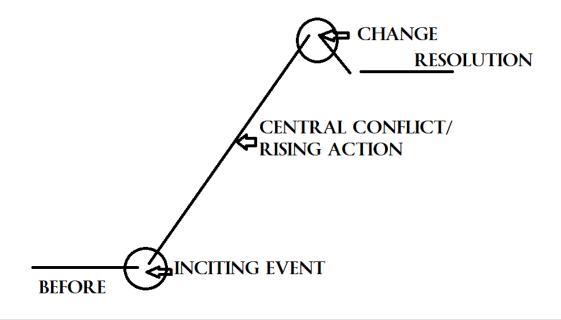
## **Change Statement:**

Because of these events, my client went from	to
Because of these events, the villain went from	to
Because of these events, my client's relationship with/to went from	
Because of these events, the villain's relationship with/to went from	

The change might be from within the protagonist (your client) or be a change in relationship between the protagonist (your client) and another person or system. Also consider whether the effective way to tell the story through the change statement is from the villain's perspective.

<b>Identify:</b>
What is the trust relationship in my story?
What is the betrayal of that trust relationship in my story?
Who or what are the possible villains in my story?

## **STORY STRUCTURE:**



Identify the "Before":		

Remember, in many stories, it will be most effective to start with your villain. How can you use your villain to identify the "before"?

Identify your "Inciting Event":
Think about:
What is the thing that caused the villain to engage in a betrayal?
What action did your client take that set off a chain of events that led him or her to be accused of a crime?
What action did the villain take that led to this chain of events?
What is the thing that caused the status quo (the "before") to change?
What happened to upset the pattern of the "before"?

Describe the Central Conflict/Rising Action:					

What happened after the inciting event?

Usually expressed in a combination of scenes and summaries.

Identify the "Change":		

What is the resolution to the central conflict?

What happens when the central conflict reaches a climax?