**PERSUASIVE SPEECH**

**FOR**

**LEONA PHILLIPS-JACKSON**

**SAMPLE**

Hello everyone. It is a privilege to be here, with all of you. (**If there is anyone you want to acknowledge, do so here**). I would like to thank \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for providing the opportunity to speak today. As I stand before you, naturally, a million ideas flash, rapid fire through my mind... through my gut... and straight through my heart. Each one of us has a story... a road map that led us to this spot.... a series of lessons and challenges, and hopefully, an arsenal of tools that, if we are smart enough... brave enough.... strong enough.... get us through each day.... one day at a time... sometimes one hour at a time... even one minute... We’ve learned that whatever it takes, we get to choose... to be stronger... to continue to recover.... no matter how long we’ve been sober... it’s a lifelong process.... and we have each other... as guides... mirrors... and external conscience.

Ralph Waldo Emerson said, “Our greatest glory is not in never failing, but in rising up...” I’d like to share my journey with you.