**Researching Sources**

**Directions:** In pairs, silently read your news article. Then, do the following:

Part I

1. Circle all expert sources

2. Underline all official sources

3. Put a star next to all sources of interest

Part 2

1. Pick ONE source from your story, and use the Internet to research that source as you attempt to address each of the seven source evaluation tips from Poynter. The tips are listed below for your reference and to guide you. Your job is to gather information about the source based on these questions, and then tell me whether you think that source was credible enough to be in the story.

1. Always ask: how does the source know what he/she knows?
2. Consider how you could prove what the source knows through records or other sources.
3. Ask what assumptions the source is making, and question those assumptions.
4. Ask yourself who else might know this information.
5. Ask whether this source has proven reliable in the past or is referenced by other media.
6. Does the source have any motive for providing this information? How does this information make the source look?
7. Could the average citizen contact this source to find out more?

Part 3

Answer the following question in 3-4 sentences in the space below: Based on your findings, was this source credible? Explain your answer.