Name _____ Date _____

Running a Campaign: Research Coordinator

Part of running a campaign is knowing what the other candidate is up to. You will help out your candidate by doing research on their opponent. What parts of their plan are different from your candidate's plan? What are they not doing or promising that your candidate is? You will focus primarily on the candidates' own websites, and use online news sources for further support.

Step 1: What do you care about?

Start by brainstorming what issues and topics are interesting and relevant to you. You must have at least 3, but no more than 5.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

When you start looking at the candidates' websites, your priorities may change, and that's OK. It's always good to start with a focus, and then you can broaden it if you choose to.

Step 2: Compare and Contrast

Fill in the chart by going to each candidate's website. Note that often candidates will make their own comparison between each other, but you MUST go to each website instead of relying on only your candidates'. In the top two boxes, write the names of the opposing candidate and your candidate. Use the boxes underneath to write their views on topics you identified as important, or ones that seemed interesting once you began your research. Use one row per topic. In the last column, write notes related to each topic that you found from other news sources. Make sure all your sources are credible!

Opposing Candidate:	My Candidate:	Notes from other news sources

Step 3: Research Report

Sum up what you found for your candidate. Write a brief report below of what you found, and what you think your candidate should focus on in his/her next interview or speech. For example, if the candidates have very different views on health care, you should advise your candidate to talk about these differences and why his/hers are the best option. You can start your report as if you're writing an email or a letter. Remember that your candidate is a busy person so you should keep your report brief and to the point.