

REPORT FOR THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

UNITED STATES SENATE

RELEASED IN FULL

SUBJECT: Ambassadorial Nomination: Certificate of
Demonstrated Competence -- Foreign Service
Act, Section 304(a)(4)

POST: Albania

CANDIDATE: Donald Lu

Donald Lu is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service. A three-time Deputy Chief of Mission, he is known for being one of the Department's most talented leaders, respected both for his strong analytical skills and for his mentoring and motivational skills. An experienced negotiator, comfortable navigating relations with recalcitrant host governments, Mr. Lu will bring essential skills in negotiating between ethnic factions in Albania to achieve democratization and adherence to the rule-of-law.

Mr. Lu currently serves as Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) in New Delhi, India – a nation of critical importance to U.S. foreign policy. He also served as Chargé d'Affaires (2009-2010) and DCM (2007-2009) in Baku, Azerbaijan, and as DCM in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan (2003-2006). Previously, he served as Deputy Director in the Office of Central Asian and South Caucasus Affairs, Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs (2001-2003), Special Assistant to the Ambassador for the Newly Independent States in the Bureau of European Affairs (2000-2001), Political Officer in New Delhi, India (1997-2000), Special Assistant to the Ambassador in New Delhi, India (1996-1997), Consular Officer in Tbilisi, Georgia (1994-1996), and Political Officer in Peshawar, Pakistan (1992-1994). He served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Sierra Leone.

Mr. Lu earned a Master of Arts Degree in International and Public Affairs, as well as a Bachelor of Arts Degree in the same discipline, from Princeton University. He speaks and reads Russian, Azerbaijani, Georgian, and West African Krio, and has a working knowledge of Hindi and Urdu.

He is the recipient of four individual Superior Honor Awards and two individual Meritorious Honor Awards.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Frank Tumminia, Senior Reviewer