

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: United Kingdom

CANDIDATE: Matthew Winthrop Barzun

Matthew Winthrop Barzun is an Internet pioneer who served as the U.S. Ambassador to the Kingdom of Sweden from 08/2009 to 05/2011. Known for his commitment to public service, exemplary leadership of the American Embassy in Stockholm, innovation, and knowledge of foreign affairs and the U.S. Government, Mr. Barzun will bring essential skills to the task of advancing bilateral relations with the United Kingdom, one of our most critical partners globally, within the European Union, and within the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

Mr. Barzun also served as Co-Chair, Vision Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky (05/2012-Present), Co-Chair, Presidential Inaugural Committee, Washington, D.C. (11/2012-01/2013), National Finance Chair, Obama for America 2012, Chicago, Illinois (06/2011-11/2012), Volunteer Fundraiser, National Finance Committee, Obama for America, Louisville, Kentucky and Chicago, Illinois (02/2007-11/2008), Volunteer Fundraiser, John Kerry for President, Louisville, Kentucky and Washington, D.C. (02/2004-11/2004), Executive Vice President, CNET Networks, San Francisco, California (01/2001-08/2004), and Chief Strategy Officer, CNET Networks, New York, NY (10/1993-09/2000). His commitment to public service is demonstrated by his membership on the Boards of numerous community, religious, private sector, and political organizations in Kentucky and elsewhere.

Mr. Barzun earned an A.B. in History & Literature (Magna cum Laude) at Harvard University in 1993. He received academic awards at Harvard University and a Sue M. Cobb Medal for Exemplary Diplomatic Service from the Department of State in 2011. He speaks limited Swedish and basic French.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Frank Tumminia, Senior Reviewer