

REPORT FOR THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

UNITED STATES SENATE

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

POST: Tanzania

RELEASED IN FULL

CANDIDATE: Mark Bradley Childress

Mark Childress, Deputy Chief of Staff at the White House since 2012, has a long and distinguished record of public service in both the Executive and Legislative branches. He has visited many African countries, especially in Southern and East Africa, and has met numerous African leaders, including Julius Nyerere of Tanzania during the effort to end minority rule in Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe. In 1983, Mr. Childress lived in a Nigerian village conducting agricultural trials on a variety of winged beans that would provide an alternate protein crop in the region. Mr. Childress' broad and deep understanding of the issues of the region and U.S. interests there would serve him well in pursuing U.S. relations with Tanzania.

Before his current position as Deputy Chief of Staff, Mr. Childress was Senior Counselor for Access to Justice at the Justice Department (2011-2012), Acting General Counsel at the Department of Health and Human Services (2010-2011), Senior Advisor to the Senate HELP Committee (2009-2010), and Chief of Staff at the Department of Health and Human Services (2009). Previously, he was an Attorney at Foley Hoag, LLC in Boston ((2007-2009), a Lawyer with Cape York Development Corporation in Cairns, Australia ((2005-2006) and Chief Counsel, US Senate (2000-2005). He also served as Senior Counsel to the President for Nominations (1998-2000), Vice President and General Counsel of The Environmental Working Group (1995-1998), and General Counsel of the Senate Labor Committee (1989-1995).

Mr. Childress earned a Bachelor's Degree from Yale University in 1981, and a J.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1986. He was awarded The Morehead Fellowship while at UNC Law School.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Frank Tumminia, Senior Reviewer