

**Senate Commerce Committee Coast Guard Nominee Questionnaire
117th Congress**

Instructions for the nominees: The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation asks you to provide typed answers to each of the following questions. It is requested that the nominee type the question in full before each response. Do not leave any questions blank. Type "None" or "Not Applicable" if a question does not apply to the nominee. Return printed answers to Committee. Begin each section (i.e., "A", "B", etc.) on a new sheet of paper.

A. BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

1. Name (Include any former names or nicknames used):

Christopher A. Bartz

2. Position to which nominated:

Rear Admiral

3. Date of Nomination:

23 November 2021

4. Address (List current place of residence and office addresses):

[REDACTED]

5. Date and Place of Birth:

February 8, 1967; South Bend, Indiana

6. Provide the name, position, and place of employment for your spouse (if married) and the names and ages of your children (including stepchildren and children by a previous marriage).

Polly R. Bartz (unemployed)

Audrey M. Bartz (23)

Claire M. Bartz (20)

7. List all college and graduate degrees. Provide year and school attended.

2005: University of Alabama, Masters of Science in Aerospace Engineering

1990: U. S. Coast Guard Academy, Bachelors of Science in Marine Engineering and Naval Architecture

8. List all post-undergraduate employment, and highlight all management-level jobs held and any non-managerial jobs that relate to the position for which you are nominated.

I have served as a Coast Guard officer since May 23, 1990. Please see my official biography for detailed information.

9. Attach a copy of your resume.

My official Coast Guard biography is attached.

10. List any advisory, consultative, honorary, or other part-time service or positions with Federal, State, or local governments, other than those listed above, within the last ten years.

None.

11. List all positions held as an officer, director, trustee, partner, proprietor, agent, representative, or consultant of any corporation, company, firm, partnership, or other business, enterprise, educational, or other institution within the last ten years.

None.

12. Please list each membership you have had during the past ten years or currently hold with any civic, social, charitable, educational, political, professional, fraternal, benevolent or religiously affiliated organization, private club, or other membership organization. (For this question, you do not have to list your religious affiliation or membership in a religious

house of worship or institution.). Include dates of membership and any positions you have held with any organization. Please note whether any such club or organization restricts membership on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, age, or disability.

Coast Guard Aviation Association, Ancient Order of the Pterodactyl – member since 2020

Coast Guard Academy Parents Association – member since 2016

Coast Guard Academy Alumni Association – member since 1990

None of these organizations restricts membership on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, age or disability.

13. Have you ever been a candidate for and/or held a public office (elected, non-elected, or appointed)? If so, indicate whether any campaign has any outstanding debt, the amount, and whether you are personally liable for that debt.

No.

14. List all memberships and offices held with and services rendered to, whether compensated or not, any political party or election committee within the past ten years. If you have held a paid position or served in a formal or official advisory position (whether compensated or not) in a political campaign within the past ten years, identify the particulars of the campaign, including the candidate, year of the campaign, and your title and responsibilities.

None.

15. Itemize all political contributions to any individual, campaign organization, political party, political action committee, or similar entity of \$200 or more for the past ten years.

None.

16. List all scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, honorary society memberships, military medals, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievements.

Military awards include the Legion of Merit (two awards), the Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), the Coast Guard Commendation Medal (three awards), the Coast Guard Achievement Medal (two awards), National Defense Medal (two awards), Antarctic Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal (three awards).

17. Please list each book, article, column, Internet blog posting, or other publication you have authored, individually or with others. Include a link to each publication when possible. Also list any speeches that you have given on topics relevant to the position for which you have been nominated. Do not attach copies of these publications unless otherwise instructed.

None.

18. List all digital platforms (including social media and other digital content sites) on which you currently or have formerly operated an account, regardless of whether or not the account was held in your name or an alias. Include the name of an "alias" or "handle" you have used on each of the named platforms. Indicate whether the account is active, deleted, or dormant. Include a link to each account if possible.

Chris Bartz – Facebook; the account is active.

Chris Bartz – LinkedIn; the account is active

19. Please identify each instance in which you have testified orally or in writing before Congress in a governmental or non-governmental capacity and specify the date and subject matter of each testimony.

None.

20. Given the current mission, major programs, and major operational objectives of the Coast Guard, what in your background or employment experience do you believe affirmatively qualifies you for appointment to the position for which you have been nominated, and why do you wish to serve in that position?

With over 31 years of military service, I believe that I am well suited to serve as a Rear Admiral in the U.S. Coast Guard. I have a strong operational

background, having supported every Coast Guard mission throughout my career. My operational experience includes flying over 3,300 flight hours as a Coast Guard Aviator and participating in multiple worldwide deployments aboard a variety of Coast Guard cutters, accumulating over three years of sea time. I also have significant experience in mission support that includes aviation maintenance, acquisitions, software development, data center and network operations, and cybersecurity. My most recent position as Director of Exercises and Training for U. S. Cyber Command has expanded my experience to include cyber operations and training.

The Coast Guard possesses unique authorities, capabilities and has embedded competencies that are in high demand within the Department of Homeland Security, Department of Defense, and other government agencies. I strongly desire to help lead the Coast Guard to meet these demands in support and defense of our Nation. As the Coast Guard recapitalizes its surface and aviation fleets, it will be critical to ensure state-of-the-art capabilities are installed and operational, creating a network of highly capable, interoperable assets. This will be most critical as the Coast Guard builds new polar icebreakers to ensure the United States maintains its Arctic presence and sovereignty. As a Coast Guard senior leader, I will use my extensive operational and mission support experience to ensure that Coast Guard personnel and assets are at their highest state of readiness to meet worldwide and domestic mission demands.

21. What do you believe are your responsibilities, if confirmed, to ensure that the Coast Guard has proper management and accounting controls, and what experience do you have in managing a large organization?

Throughout my career, I have led multiple Coast Guard units, both large and small, to include the Operations System Center (OSC). Employing over 500 contractors and government workers, OSC is responsible for meeting the Coast Guard's software development and data center requirements. As the Commanding Officer of OSC, it was my responsibility to ensure each division sustained the the highest degree of efficiency and output while ensuring compliance with all Federal, Departmental and Service policies. I ensured my staff strictly adhered to well defined and repeatable proceses and when I found inefficiencies, I employed lean manufacturing and six sigma techniques to optimize the mission effectiveness of the organization. Throughout my career, I have found that units which maintain strong fiscal and operational discipline, maximize production and enjoy a high level of

employee morale. As a Coast Guard senior leader, I will continue to enforce a highly disciplined management approach to ensure the best use of taxpayer resources.

22. What do you believe to be the top three challenges facing the Coast Guard, and why?

Talent management. The Coast Guard requires highly competent and technically skilled personnel to work in a variety of dynamic and diverse operating environments. The recapitalized cutter fleet and burgeoning cyber mission will demand a more technically competent workforce that is able to operate and maintain state-of-the-art capabilities. The Service competes for the finite personnel cohort that possesses these talents with other government agencies and the commercial sector, which is more capable of landing talent using higher salaries and benefits. As a result, the Coast Guard will need to become an employer of choice to attract and retain talent within the organization. The Service will likely need to examine its Service recruitment and retention strategies to have a workforce capable of meeting mission demand.

Adapting innovative technologies. The Coast Guard must improve in adapting advanced technologies across all of its mission areas. The Service needs take its innovative culture to a higher level in order to improve operational capability and reduce costs. Investments in data analytics will provide a means to analyze data sets, draw conclusions and understand risk, improving decision-making within the organization. The Coast Guard will also need to evaluate the impacts of emerging technologies such as unmanned platforms, block chain encryption, artificial intelligence, and human-machine collaboration. It will be also be important to have depth of understanding of these technologies since we will inevitably have to regulate these technologies in the future.

Cybersecurity. The Coast Guard must keep pace with a dynamic cybersecurity environment and continually changing conditions within its

maritime operating area. The maritime environment is affected by the increasing importance of the cyber domain where adversaries have the ability to attack us virtually beyond the limits of physical borders. To defeat our adversaries, the Coast Guard needs continued support from the President and Congress to recapitalize its information technology assets and meet these adaptive threats head-on. Current Coast Guard modernization and recapitalization efforts need to extend beyond the acquisition of new cutters and include the Command and Control, Communications, Computers, Cyber and Intelligence (C5I) enterprise and other key technology enablers.

B. POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

1. Describe all financial arrangements, deferred compensation agreements, and other continuing dealings with business associates, clients, or customers. Please include information related to retirement accounts.

Please see my nominee Public Financial Disclosure Report.

2. Do you have any commitments or agreements, formal or informal, to maintain employment, affiliation, or practice with any business, association or other organization during your appointment? If so, please explain.

No.

3. Indicate any investments, obligations, liabilities, or other relationships which could involve potential conflicts of interest in the position to which you have been nominated. Explain how you will resolve each potential conflict of interest.

None, but if anything arises in the future I will obtain advice from a Coast Guard ethics official and follow that advice.

4. Describe any business relationship, dealing, or financial transaction which you have had during the last ten years, whether for yourself, on behalf of a client, or acting as an agent, that could in any way constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position to which you have been nominated. Explain how you will resolve each potential conflict of interest.

None, but if anything arises in the future I will obtain advice from a Coast Guard ethics official and follow that advice.

5. Identify any other potential conflicts of interest, and explain how you will resolve each potential conflict of interest.

None, but if anything arises in the future I will obtain advice from a Coast Guard ethics official and follow that advice.

6. Describe any activity during the past ten years, including the names of clients represented, in which you have been engaged for the purpose of directly or indirectly influencing the passage, defeat, or modification of any legislation or affecting the administration and execution of law or public policy.

None.

C. LEGAL MATTERS

1. Have you ever been disciplined or cited for a breach of ethics, professional misconduct, or retaliation by, or been the subject of a complaint to, any court, administrative agency, an Inspector General, the Office of Special Counsel, professional association, disciplinary committee, or other professional group? If yes:
 - a. Provide the name of agency, association, committee, or group;
 - b. Provide the date the citation, disciplinary action, complaint, or personnel action was issued or initiated;
 - c. Describe the citation, disciplinary action, complaint, or personnel action;
 - d. Provide the results of the citation, disciplinary action, complaint, or personnel action.

No.

2. Have you ever been investigated, arrested, charged, or held by any Federal, State, or other law enforcement authority of any Federal, State, county, or municipal entity, other than for a minor traffic offense? If so, please explain.

No.

3. Have you or any business or nonprofit of which you are or were an officer ever been involved as a party in an administrative agency proceeding, criminal proceeding, or civil litigation? If so, please explain.

No.

4. Have you ever been convicted (including pleas of guilty or *nolo contendere*) of any criminal violation other than a minor traffic offense? If so, please explain.

No.

5. Have you ever been accused, formally or informally, of sexual harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including gender identity, sexual orientation, and pregnancy), age, disability, genetic information, marital status, parental status, political affiliation, engagement in a protected Equal Employment

Opportunity/Equal Opportunity (EEO/EO) activity, whistleblower activity, or any other basis? If so, please explain.

No.

6. If you have ever served as a general court-martial convening authority involving sexual misconduct or assault, have you ever disapproved the findings of a court-martial related to the offense(s) or reduced the sentence adjudged by a court-martial, other than in connection with a pre-trial agreement?

No.

7. Please advise the Committee of any additional information, favorable or unfavorable, which you feel should be disclosed in connection with your nomination.

None.

D. RELATIONSHIP WITH COMMITTEE

1. Will you ensure that your department/agency complies with deadlines for information set by congressional committees, and that your department/agency endeavors to timely comply with requests for information from individual Members of Congress, including requests from members in the minority?

Yes.

2. Will you ensure that your department/agency does whatever it can to protect congressional witnesses and whistleblowers from reprisal for their testimony and disclosures?

Yes.

3. Will you cooperate in providing the Committee with requested witnesses, including technical experts and career employees, with firsthand knowledge of matters of interest to the Committee?

Yes

4. Are you willing to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Congress on such occasions as you may be reasonably requested to do so?

Yes

5. Do you agree, if confirmed, to keep this Committee, its subcommittees, other appropriate Committees of Congress, and their respective staffs apprised of new information that materially impacts the accuracy of testimony, briefings, reports, records—including documents and electronic communications, and other information you or your organization previously provided?

Yes, in accordance with law and DHS policy and guidance.

6. Do you agree, if confirmed, and on request, to provide this Committee and its subcommittees with records and other information within their oversight jurisdiction, even absent a formal Committee request?

Yes, in accordance with law and DHS policy and guidance.

7. Do you agree, if confirmed, to ensure that you and other members of your organization protect from retaliation any military member, federal employee, or contractor employee who testifies before, or communicates with this Committee, its subcommittees, and any other appropriate committee of Congress?

Yes

(Nominee is to include this signed affidavit along with answers to the above questions.)

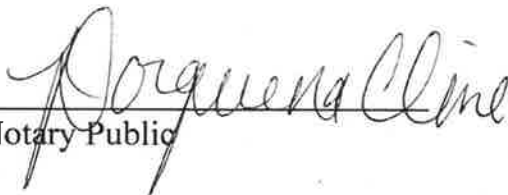
F. AFFIDAVIT

CHRISTOPHER BART being duly sworn, hereby states that he/she has read and signed the foregoing Statement on Biographical and Financial Information and that the information provided therein is, to the best of his/her knowledge, current, accurate, and complete.

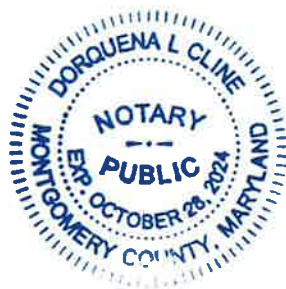


Signature of Nominee

Subscribed and sworn before me this 16 day of December, 20 21.



Notary Public



REAR ADMIRAL CHRISTOPHER A. BARTZ

RDML Bartz, currently serves as the Director of Exercises and Training, United States Cyber Command.

RDML Bartz has extensive experience serving the Coast Guard in information technology related fields. As the Chief of C4 and IT Capabilities, he was responsible for generating and managing IT requirements for afloat, aviation and shore-based assets. During his command of the Coast Guard's Operation's System Center, he led software engineering and development efforts including the release and maintenance of 50 enterprise software applications and operating systems in accordance with mission needs. Further, he directed the operation of servers, networks, and systems for the Service's enterprise data center, providing timely, accurate, and consistent technical infrastructure services for internal and external customers. His most recent assignment was as the Coast Guard's Senior Information Security Officer, where he established policies and procedures focused on enhancing the cybersecurity posture of the Coast Guard.



A designated Coast Guard Aviator and Aeronautical Engineer, RDML Bartz received his wings in 1994 and accumulated over 3,300 hours of helicopter flight time. His operational assignments included Air Station North Bend, Oregon; Aviation Training Center Mobile, Alabama; Air Station Detroit, Michigan; and Air Station New Orleans, Louisiana. He is credited with over 120 search and rescue cases, resulting in 60 persons saved or assisted. As a member of the Polar Operations Division, he deployed aboard Coast Guard icebreakers to support operations in Antarctica and Alaska. As well as conducting law enforcement, drug and migrant interdiction operations, he participated in the Coast Guard response to Hurricane Katrina and in the search and rescue and oil pollution response following the tragic explosion aboard the Deepwater Horizon Mobile Drilling Unit in the Gulf of Mexico.

RDML Bartz earned a Bachelor of Science in Marine Engineering and Naval Architecture from the Coast Guard Academy in 1990; a Master of Science in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Alabama in 2002; and holds a certificate in Enterprise Architecture from the National Defense University. He is a certified DHS Level 3 Program Manager and a Certified Information Systems Security Professional.

His awards include the Legion of Merit (two awards), the Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), the Coast Guard Commendation Medal (three awards), and various other personal and unit awards.

REAR ADMIRAL (sel) Christopher A. Bartz

Current Assignment:

Jun 20 – present U.S. CYBER COMMAND (J7), Director of Exercises and Training

Assignment History

Jul 19 – May 20 COMDT (CG-62), Senior Information Security Officer
May 17 – Jul 19 Executive Assistant for the Deputy Commandant for Mission Support
Jul 14 – Apr 17 Operations System Center Martinsburg WV, Commanding Officer
Jul 12 – Jun 14 COMDT (CG-761), Chief, Office of C4IT Capabilities
Jul 09 – Jun 12 Air Station New Orleans LA, Executive Officer
Jul 07 – Jul 09 COMDT (CG-4), Executive Assistant
Sep 05 – Jun 07 COMDT (CG-761), Program Manager
Jun 02 – Aug 05 Air Station Detroit MI, Engineering Officer, LCDR
Jun 99 – Jul 02 Aviation Training Center Mobile AL, Chief HH-65 Maintenance
Jun 98 – Jun 99 Polar Operations, Deployed Aviation Engineer
Jun 97 – Jun 98 Air Station North Bend OR, Student Engineer
Jun 94 – Jun 97 Air Station North Bend OR, Rotary Aviator
Jun 92 – Jun 94 U. S. Navy Flight School, Student
May 90 – Jun 92 USCGC DURABLE, Deck Watch Officer

Educational Summary

2005 University of Alabama, Masters of Science in Aerospace Engineering
1990 U.S. Coast Guard Academy, Bachelors of Science in Marine Engineering and Naval Architecture

Military Personal Awards and Significant National Recognition or Achievement

2020 Meritorious Service Medal
2019 Legion of Merit
2017 Meritorious Service Medal
2014 Legion of Merit
2012 Meritorious Service Medal
2009 Meritorious Service Medal
2007 Coast Guard Commendation Medal
2005 Coast Guard Commendation Medal
2005 Coast Guard Achievement Medal
2004 Commandant's Letter of Commendation
2002 Coast Guard Commendation Medal
1998 Commandant's Letter of Commendation
1998 Commandant's Letter of Commendation
1997 Coast Guard Achievement Medal
1997 Commandant's Letter of Commendation

Significant Current Professional Credentials or Recent Activities

2020 Certified Information Security Professional
2017 DHS Level III Acquisition Certification: Program Manager
2014 National Defense University Enterprise Architecture Certificate
2009 Level I Joint Professional Military Education