National Aeronautics and Space Administration

George C. Marshall Space Flight Center
Marshall Space Flight Center, AL 35812

November 20, 2012

Reply to Attn of:

LS01 (AMM)

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: LS01/Audrey D. Robinson

SUBJECT: Approval for NASA Space Launch Systems (SLS) Program Manager to Attend the Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corporation's Holiday Reception on November 27, 2012

On November 27, 2012, Ball Aerospace and Technologies Corporation (Ball) will host its Washington Operations Customer Holiday Reception at the Reagan Building, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., in Washington, D.C., from 5:30 PM – 9:30 PM.

NASA Space Launch Systems (SLS) Program Manager, Todd May, is invited to attend the reception. Attending the reception will be representatives from NASA, other Executive branch agencies, and Members of Congress and their staffs, and industry. Approximately 600 people have been invited and are expected to attend. The estimated cost of the reception, which includes all food and beverages, is $50 per person. I find that the event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g). NASA Headquarters has already issued a blanket WAG determination for this event.

Ball has numerous NASA contracts, including Space Launch System (SLS) work, and is a potential source for additional NASA procurements. Mr. May presently, or may in the near future, have extensive involvement in matters relating to Ball's business interests. Attendance at the reception will allow Mr. May to discuss NASA's program plans with other guests. I have determined that free attendance of Mr. May at the reception is in the interest of the agency because it will further agency programs and operations, and will help to raise NASA's profile with national governmental leaders and industry leaders.

Ball Aerospace and Technologies Corporation is a registered lobbying organization, and as such NASA employees who are in non-career positions for which Executive Order 13490 requires the signing of an ethics pledge may attend only if they make arrangements with the sponsor to reimburse the $50 cost of the reception.

Questions about this determination may be addressed to Annette Metcalf Coffel at 256-544-0025.

Audrey D. Robinson
Chief Counsel