

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



December 23, 2005

Reply to Attn of:

General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at the Valentine Ball Sponsored by the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronic Association, February 11, 2006

On February 11, 2006, the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronic Association (AFCEA-NOVA) will sponsor their annual black-tie formal winter event: The Valentine Ball will be held at the Sheraton Premier Hotel, Tysons Corner, VA. This event will be widely attended by approximately 500 people from a wide variety of areas, including officials from other Federal agencies, members of the communications and electronics industry, and members of the Armed Forces. The estimated cost of the dinner, which includes all food and beverages, is approximately \$60.00. The event will allow an exchange of information between a variety of people involved in government communications and electronics matters.

I find that this event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR § 2635.204(g). I further determine that there is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect AFCEA-NOVA, may accept an invitation for free attendance to the dinner for themselves and their spouses or guests.

NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect AFCEA-NOVA or its members, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 CFR § 2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Andrew Falcon", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

R. Andrew Falcon