

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



January 11, 2006

Reply to Attn of:

General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

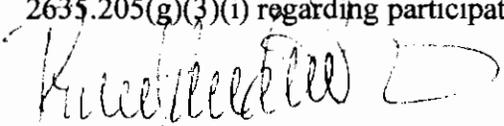
SUBJECT Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at Walt Disney Studio's World Premiere of the Documentary Film, "Roving Mars," on January 26, 2006, at the National Air and Space Museum

On the evening of January 26, 2006, Walt Disney Studios will sponsor the world premier of their documentary, "*Roving Mars*," in the IMAX Theater of the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, DC. Walt Disney Studios will hold a reception in conjunction with the screening of the film and the Administrator will provide some brief remarks about NASA. The documentary, which was funded by Lockheed Martin as a public service, follows the successful building and launching of the Spirit and Opportunity Rovers that explored Mars. NASA assisted the film company with the production under a Space Act agreement.

The event will be widely attended by approximately 900 - 1,000 people from NASA, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, other Federal agencies, Congress and their staffs, industry, the Walt Disney Studios, the public, and the media. The approximate cost of the event, which includes food and beverages is \$60 per person. NASA employees will have an opportunity to view the film and discuss NASA missions and programs, as well as other issues of common interest.

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 because it will further Agency programs or operations. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect Disney or Lockheed Martin, may accept an invitation for free attendance to the event for themselves and their spouses or guests.

NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect Disney or Lockheed Martin, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 CFR § 2635.205(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.


R. Andrew Falcon