

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
George C. Marshall Space Flight Center
Marshall Space Flight Center, AL 35812



July 13, 2007

Reply to Attn of:

LS01(DMW)

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: LS01/ William A. Bierbower

SUBJECT: Approval for MSFC Employees with Senior Institutional or Project Responsibilities to Attend a Brunch at the Huntsville Botanical Gardens Sponsored by the Alabama Coalition for Space Exploration

In accordance with 5 CFR. § 2635.204(g)(2) and (3), I make the following determination:

Certain MSFC employees with senior institutional or project responsibilities have been invited to attend a brunch at the Huntsville Botanical Gardens sponsored by the Alabama Coalition for Space Exploration (ACSE), on July 30, 2007 from 7:30am to 9:00am.

ACSE's membership consists of a broad coalition of industry, academia, and the NASA Task Force, which is a Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce sponsored committee. ACSE is affiliated with the Coalition for Space Exploration in Washington, D.C.

This event will be a widely-attended gathering of aerospace industry representatives and local elected officials, as well as, other community leaders. The brunch is valued at \$8 per person and approximately 200 individuals have been invited to attend. The brunch is fully funded by contributions from ACSE. I find that the brunch meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR § 2635.204(g)(2).

Most of ACSE's members are companies that are currently providing contractual services to NASA, or will seek to provide contractual services to NASA in the future. Some MSFC personnel invited to attend this event presently, or may in the near future, have extensive involvement in matters relating to members of ACSE in their pursuit to provide, or seek to provide, contractual services to NASA.¹ These personnel are

¹ These personnel include: MSFC Center Director; MSFC Deputy Center Director; MSFC Associate Center Director; Assistant Director for Technology; Director, Office of Center Operations; Deputy Director, Office of Center Operations; Director, Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications; Director, Office of Human Capital; Special Assistant to the Director, Office of Human Capital; Director, Office of the Chief Information Officer; Deputy Director IEMP, Office of the Chief Information Officer; Chief Operating Officer, Michoud Assembly Facility; Director, Michoud Assembly Transition Office; Manager,

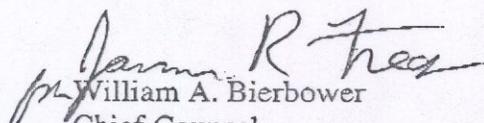
similarly situated in that they each have senior institutional or project responsibilities that could significantly influence current or future ACSE member's contracts.

I have determined that free attendance of these senior institutional and project leaders at the brunch is in the interests of the agency because it will further agency programs and operations. The attendance of these senior NASA employees at the event will help to raise NASA's profile with local business and governmental leaders, will contribute to community relations, and will support NASA's statutory mandate to disseminate information about its programs.

Given the purpose of the event, NASA's interest in it, the broad attendance anticipated, and the modest market value of the event, I have determined that the value to the agency in having these senior institutional and project leaders attend this event outweighs any concern that free attendance may or may appear to improperly influence them in the performance of their duties.

Accordingly, NASA employees in the positions identified above may accept free attendance at the event. They may also accept invitations for accompanying spouses or guests.

Questions about this determination may be addressed to Devinti M. Williams at 256-544-0012.


William A. Bierbower
Chief Counsel

Exploration Launch Office; Deputy Manager, Exploration Launch Office; Chief Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel; Manager, Shuttle Propulsion Office; Deputy Manager, Shuttle Propulsion Office; Supervisor, External Tank Project; Supervisor, Reusable Solid Rocket Booster Project; Director, Office of Diversity & Equal Opportunity; Director, Office of Procurement; Deputy Director, Office of Procurement; Director, Safety & Mission Assurance Directorate; Deputy Director, Safety & Mission Assurance Directorate; Deputy Director for Program Assurance, Safety & Mission Assurance Directorate; Chief Financial Officer, Office of the Chief Financial Officer; Manager, Science & Mission Systems Office; Executive Director, NSSTC; Supervisor, Test Laboratory; Director, Engineering Directorate; Associate Director, Engineering Directorate; Associate Director for Technical Management, Engineering Directorate; Chief Engineer, Chief Engineer's Office; Deputy Chief Engineer, Chief Engineer's Office; Assistant to the Chief Engineer, Chief Engineer's Office; Supervisor, Materials & Processes Laboratory; Chief Scientist, Science & Mission Systems Office; Supervisor, Spacecraft & Vehicle Systems Department; Deputy Supervisor, Spacecraft & Vehicle Systems Department; Division Chief, Systems Engineering Division; Supervisor, Upper Stage; Supervisor, Upper Stage Engine; Supervisor, Space Shuttle Main Engine Project; Supervisor, Lunar Programs & Projects Office; Management Liaison for Exploration, Shuttle Propulsion Office; Supervisor, Propulsion Systems Engineering & Integration Office; Supervisor, Space Systems Department; Deputy Supervisor, Space Systems Department; Supervisor, First Stage; Supervisor, Vehicle Integration; and Deputy, Propulsion Systems Department.