



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

August 6, 2007

LS01

Reply to Attn of:

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: LS01/William J. Bierbower

SUBJECT: Approval for MSFC Employees with Senior Institutional or Project Responsibilities to Attend a Post-launch Reception Sponsored by Boeing Company

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

Certain MSFC employees with senior institutional or project responsibilities with regard to the Space Shuttle Program, External Tank Project, and Constellation Program have been invited to attend a post-launch reception sponsored by Boeing at the Hilton Hotel, Cocoa Beach, Florida, on or about Tuesday, August 7, 2007, from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. This event is to be held in conjunction with the launch of STS-118, at the Kennedy Space Center.

This event will be a widely-attended gathering of aerospace industry representatives, members of Congress, NASA employees, and members of the public. The reception is valued at \$20 per person and approximately 200 individuals have been invited to attend. I find that the reception meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(2).

Boeing is a company that is currently involved in the Space Shuttle program, the Constellation program, and other significant contractual matters relating to NASA. Some MSFC personnel invited to attend this event presently, or may in the near future, have extensive involvement in matters relating to Boeing's business interests.¹ These personnel are similarly situated in that they each have senior institutional or project responsibilities that could significantly influence current or future Boeing contracts.

I have determined that free attendance of these senior institutional and project leaders at the post-launch reception is in the interests of the agency because it will further agency

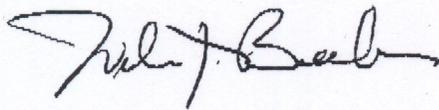
¹ These personnel include the Center Director, the Deputy Center Director, the Space Shuttle Propulsion Office Deputy Manager, the Supervisor of the External Tank Project Office, the Supervisor of the Space Shuttle Main Engine Project Office, the Supervisor of the Propulsion Systems Engineering and Integration Office, and the Supervisor of the Reusable Solid Rocket Booster Project.

will help to raise NASA's profile with national and 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. Free attendance by employees whose duties do not affect the sponsor is addressed in a separate determination.

Questions about this determination may be addressed to Pam Bourque at 256-544-0024.



William J. Bierbower
Chief Counsel