

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



September 5, 2007

Reply to Attn of:

General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

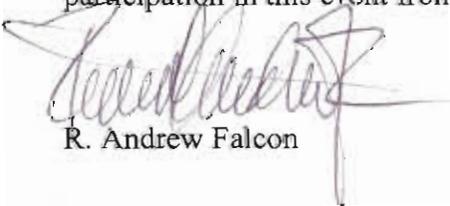
SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at the George C. Marshall Institute (GMI) 2007 Annual Celebration and Awards Dinner on September 20, 2007

On September 20, 2007, the George C. Marshall Institute (GMI) will host its annual Celebration and Awards Dinner at the Willard Intercontinental in Washington, DC. GMI is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to encourage the use of sound science in making public policy about important issues for which science and technology are major considerations. GMI studies a wide range of public policy issues involving the environment, national defense, and space security. At the dinner, GMI will present its annual Founders Award to Dr. David Abshire, President, Center for the Study of the Presidency in recognition of his outstanding contributions to science, public policy, and public service. The keynote speaker will be the General James L. Jones, United States Marine Corps (Ret.).

The event will be widely attended by approximately 100-200 people, including representatives from other Federal Agencies, Congress, industry, and non-profit organizations. The estimated cost of the dinner is \$123 per person. This event will allow NASA employees to discuss space-related, science, and public policy matters of Agency interest with a wide-range of people across the government and private sector.

I find that this event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g). I further determine that there is Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event.

Any NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the George C. Marshall Institute, such as by way of procurement duties or the negotiation of an agreement, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. 2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.



R. Andrew Falcon