

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



September 19, 2007

Reply to Attn of:

LS01(DMW)

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: LS01/William J. Bierbower

SUBJECT: Blanket approval for MSFC Senior Institutional and those with Project Responsibilities to Attend a Reception and Dinner sponsored by The Boeing Corporation

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 reception and dinner, sponsored by The Boeing Corporation (Boeing), in observation of successful completion of the Orbital Express Advanced Technology Demonstration System's final scenario. The event will be held at the Hilton Waterfront Beach Resort, located in Huntington Beach, CA on Friday, September 28, 2007.

This combined event will be a widely-attended gathering of aerospace industry executives, trade association members, and senior level NASA, MDA, U.S. Air Force, and DARPA employees. The event is valued at \$55.00 per person and approximately 250 individuals have been invited to attend. The event is fully funded by Boeing. I find that the event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR § 2635.204(g)(2).

Boeing is a contractor company that is currently providing contractual services 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.<sup>1</sup> 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 event 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 business and other senior government leaders, and will support NASA's statutory mandate to disseminate information about its programs.

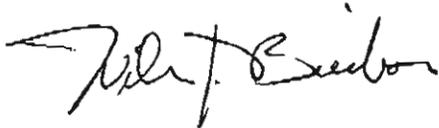
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<sup>1</sup> These personnel include: Manager, Exploration & Space Operations Office and Program Manager, Advanced Video Guidance Sensor.

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 are addressed in a separate determination.

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



William J. Bierbower  
Chief Counsel