

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



October 24, 2007

Reply to Attn of: General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

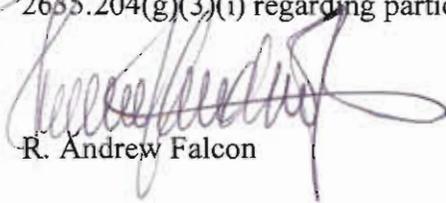
SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Attendees at the X PRIZE Cup 2007 and Executive Summit and the Holloman Air Force Base Air & Space Expo October 25 – 28, 2007

October 25 – 28, 2007, the X PRIZE Cup and Executive Summit and the Holloman Air Force Base Air & Space Expo will be held in Alamogordo, New Mexico. The X PRIZE Foundation is a 501 (c)3 educational nonprofit prize institution. The X PRIZE Cup 2007 will focus on the Northrop Grumman Lunar Lander Challenge. NASA Centennial Challenges office will present the award money to the winning entry. This challenge is designed to accelerate commercial technological developments supporting the birth of a new generation of Lunar Landers capable of ferrying payloads or humans back and forth between lunar orbit and the lunar surface.

This summit will be a widely attended gathering of approximately 100 persons, including civil servants from NASA and other federal government leaders, aerospace and personal spaceflight industry, academia, media and community leaders. The summit consists of a Welcome Reception, in Las Cruces, New Mexico; a breakfast at the Hotel Encanto; the meeting and lunch at Holloman Air Force Base; and an evening reception at the Rabon's Mesa Verde Ranch in Alamogordo, New Mexico. Registration to the summit is valued at \$500.00 per person. The Holloman Air Force Base Air & Space Expo is open to the public on October 27 and 28, 2007.

I find 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 an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event. These events will have direct application to NASA's space exploration goals as well as the personal spaceflight industry. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the X PRIZE Foundation may accept an invitation for themselves for free attendance at the summit and Air & Space Expo.

NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the X PRIZE Foundation, such as by way of procurement duties, 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