

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
John H. Glenn Research Center
Lewis Field
Cleveland, OH 44135-3191



March 03, 2008

Reply to Attn of **G**

TO: Distribution

FROM: Deputy Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Glenn Employees at an STS-123 Applied Geo Technologies Launch Reception.

On Sunday March 9, 2008, Applied Geo Technologies will host a launch reception in conjunction with STS-123 launch at the Kennedy Space Center. The event will be held at the Courtyard by Marriott in Cocoa Beach, Florida, 2028 N. Atlantic Avenue. The reception will begin at 6:00 p.m. and conclude at 8:00 p.m. with approximately 150 people in attendance including representatives from industry, the Executive and Legislative Branches of the U.S. Government, state officials, NASA, and other Federal employees. Applied Geo Technologies will provide hors d'oeuvres and beverages at a cost of approximately \$10 per person.

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 having the attendance of the event by NASA Glenn personnel. The event will allow NASA employees to discuss the NASA Vision for Space Exploration, the Space Shuttle program, and the STS-123 mission with the other attendees. Accordingly, NASA Glenn employees whose duties do not substantially affect the industry co-sponsors may accept an invitation for free attendance at the reception.

NASA Glenn employees whose duties may substantially affect these co-sponsors, 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 ethics counselor.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. William Sikora". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

J. William Sikora
Chief Counsel
Glenn Research Center