

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



March 12, 2008

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 American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) Aerospace Spotlight Awards Gala May 14, 2008

On May 14, 2008, the AIAA will host its Aerospace Spotlight Awards Gala at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, DC. Dr. Charles Elachi, Director, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, will receive the Goddard Astronautics Award. The Goddard Astronautics Award is the highest honor AIAA bestows for notable achievement in the field of astronautics. The banquet will be widely attended by officials from other Federal agencies, members of Congress and their staffers, academia, industry and aerospace associations. Approximately 700 individuals have been invited to the dinner. The estimated cost of the dinner, which includes all food and beverages, is \$200 per person. The dinner will allow NASA employees the opportunity to discuss space related issues and concerns with other attendees.

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 an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event so that NASA invitees may attend the event without charge.

NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect AIAA, 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam F. Greenstone".

Adam F. Greenstone