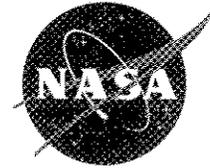


National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



June 16, 2008

Reply to Attn of General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees a Breakfast co-hosted by Members of Congress; and by Women in Aerospace, on Capitol Hill, June 18, 2008

On June 18, 2008, Congresswomen Gabrielle Giffords (D-AZ.) and Ginny Brown-Waite (R-FL.) will co-sponsor, with assistance of Women-in-Aerospace (WIA), a breakfast featuring astronaut Peggy Whitson, Ph.D., who will speak about her long-duration stays aboard the International Space Station (ISS). While the congresswomen are hosting the event overall, the breakfast is being provided by WIA. WIA's major corporate sponsors include Ball Aerospace, Booz Allen Hamilton, United Space Alliance, ATK, and Boeing. WIA "is dedicated to expanding women's opportunities for leadership and increasing their visibility in the aerospace community. Our membership, women and men, shares an interest in a broad spectrum of aerospace issues, including human space flight, aviation, remote sensing, satellite communications, robotic space exploration, and the policy issues surrounding these fields." (Source: <http://www.womeninaerospace.org/about/mission.html> last visited Jun. 16, 2008)

The presentation will be attended by representatives of the aerospace industry, trade associations, the media, Congressional staffers, members of Congress, academia, and other Federal agencies. Approximately 50-60 Congressional members and staff, and 20-30 industry representatives are expected to attend. About 5-10 NASA employees have been invited. The estimated cost of the breakfast is \$20.00 per person.

I find that the congressional-WIA 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 because it will further dissemination of Agency programs and operations. Attendance at the breakfast presentation will allow NASA personnel to hear a particularly experienced astronaut speak about NASA missions, accomplishments and results, and to interact with other persons from government and industry concerned with making and implementing U.S. space policy. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect WIA or a majority of all of its members may accept an invitation for free attendance to the reception for themselves and their spouses or guests. NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect WIA or its members, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.205(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

June 12, 2008

Join us in meeting astronaut Peggy Whitson, Ph.D.



Dear Colleague:

By now you should have received an invitation to join us at a breakfast featuring astronaut Peggy Whitson, Ph.D. Whitson is the first female commander of the International Space Station (ISS). With her two long-duration stays aboard the ISS, Whitson is NASA's most experienced astronaut. She has accumulated 377 days in space between the two missions, the most for any U.S. astronaut. Whitson has also performed a total of six career spacewalks, adding up to 39 hours, 46 minutes, more than any other woman.

Commander Whitson will give a presentation of her experiences aboard the ISS during her recent mission, Expedition 16, and provide background on the road that lead her to become an astronaut.

We welcome Whitson home and look forward to you joining us to celebrate.

**Wednesday, June 18, 2008
Capitol Hill
Democratic Caucus Room
202A Cannon House Office Building
9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.**

This event is free and is for Women in Aerospace members, Congressional Staff and government guests only. Please e-mail info@womeninaerospace.org to RSVP by Tuesday, June 17th at 5:00 p.m.

Sincerely,

Gabrielle Giffords
Member of Congress

Ginny Brown-Waite
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 12, 2008

Join us in meeting astronaut Peggy Whitson, Ph.D.



Dear Colleague:

By now you should have received an invitation to join us at a breakfast featuring astronaut Peggy Whitson, Ph.D. Whitson is the first female commander of the International Space Station (ISS). With her two long-duration stays aboard the ISS, Whitson is NASA's most experienced astronaut. She has accumulated 377 days in space between the two missions, the most for any U.S. astronaut. Whitson has also performed a total of six career spacewalks, adding up to 39 hours, 46 minutes, more than any other woman.

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This event is free and is for Women in Aerospace members, Congressional Staff and government guests only. Please e-mail info@womeninaerospace.org to RSVP by Tuesday, June 17th at 5:00 p.m.

Sincerely,


Gabrielle Giffords
Member of Congress


Ginny Brown-Waite
Member of Congress

Reistrup, James A. (HQ-MA000)

From: Laver, Susan Theresa.Marie (HQ-NC060)
Sent: Thursday, June 12, 2008 6:15 PM
To: Reistrup, James A. (HQ-MA000)
Cc: Segall, Samantha B. (KSC)[USA]
Subject: FW: Breakfast with Peggy Whitson
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Green
Attachments: 2008.06.12.WOMN.Whitson Invite Dear Colleague.doc; 2008.06.12.WOMN.Whitson Invite Dear Colleague.pdf

Jim,

Good evening.

I just wanted to follow up with our request for a WAG for this event next Wednesday. I've copied Samantha Segall, WIA, so she can answer any questions you might have.

Thank you,

Susan Laver
NASA HQ
300 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20546
(202) 358-3884, Office
(202) 358-3452, Fax
(202) 365-6730, Cellular

<http://legislative.nasa.gov/>

www.nasa.gov/city , See NASA in Your Life...

From: Berry, Liz [mailto:Liz.Berry@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 12, 2008 5:34 PM
To: Laver, Susan Theresa.Marie (HQ-NC060); Segall, Samantha B. (KSC)[USA]; Fisher, Amy; Heaton, Anna
Cc: Gibson, Lisa (HQ-NC060)
Subject: RE: Breakfast with Peggy Whitson

Attached is the signed Dear Colleague. I will send out to list serve now.

Amy—can you send to Women's Caucus members?

Thanks!

Liz Berry

6/16/2008

Legislative Assistant
Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords
502 Cannon House Office Building
(202) 225-2542

Sign-up to receive e-updates from Congresswoman Giffords at www.giffords.house.gov

From: Laver, Susan Theresa.Marie (HQ-NC060) [mailto:susan.t.laver@nasa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 12, 2008 2:41 PM
To: Segall, Samantha B. (KSC)[USA]; Berry, Liz; Fisher, Amy
Cc: Gibson, Lisa (HQ-NC060)
Subject: RE: Breakfast with Peggy Whitson

Samantha,

Thanks for the follow up.

Susan Laver
NASA HQ
300 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20546
(202) 358-3884, Office
(202) 358-3452, Fax
(202) 365-6730, Cellular

<http://legislative.nasa.gov/>

www.nasa.gov/city , See NASA in Your Life...

From: Segall, Samantha B. [mailto:Samantha.B.Segall@usa-spaceops.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 12, 2008 2:39 PM
To: Berry, Liz; Fisher, Amy; Laver, Susan Theresa.Marie (HQ-NC060)
Cc: Gibson, Lisa (HQ-NC060)
Subject: RE: Breakfast with Peggy Whitson

Women in Aerospace is a 501C-6 and we are getting sponsorship to cover the event by a few industry partners.

I have talked to Ethics and it meets the Widely Attended Event rules as well as the food provided is of de minimus value, so we are fine either way.

Again, you can call yourself, but all has been confirmed and we are set on the event.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Hope you all are having a great day!

Thanks,
Sam

6/16/2008

From: Berry, Liz [mailto:Liz.Berry@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 12, 2008 2:27 PM
To: Fisher, Amy; Laver, Susan Theresa.Marie (HQ-NC060); Segall, Samantha B.
Cc: Gibson, Lisa (HQ-NC060)
Subject: RE: Breakfast with Peggy Whitson

I think NASA is paying for all the food.

Liz Berry
Legislative Assistant
Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords
502 Cannon House Office Building
(202) 225-2542

Sign-up to receive e-updates from Congresswoman Giffords at www.giffords.house.gov

From: Fisher, Amy
Sent: Thursday, June 12, 2008 2:26 PM
To: 'Laver, Susan Theresa.Marie (HQ-NC060)'; Berry, Liz; Segall, Samantha B. (KSC)[USA]
Cc: Gibson, Lisa (HQ-NC060)
Subject: RE: Breakfast with Peggy Whitson

Just to clear up ethics stuff, are there going to be any refreshments or anything like that? And if so, is NASA paying? B/c if that's the case, it's fine, just want to make sure an outside group isn't paying and/or complies with ethics rules.

From: Laver, Susan Theresa.Marie (HQ-NC060) [mailto:susan.t.laver@nasa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 12, 2008 2:22 PM
To: Berry, Liz; Fisher, Amy; Segall, Samantha B. (KSC)[USA]
Cc: Gibson, Lisa (HQ-NC060)
Subject: RE: Breakfast with Peggy Whitson

Liz,

Good afternoon.

Let me know what you think of this draft. Feel free to edit as you see fit.

Susan Laver
NASA HQ
300 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20546
(202) 358-3884, Office
(202) 358-3452, Fax
(202) 365-6730, Cellular

<http://legislative.nasa.gov/>

6/16/2008

www.nasa.gov/city , See NASA in Your Life...

From: Berry, Liz [mailto:Liz.Berry@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 09, 2008 2:01 PM
To: Laver, Susan Theresa.Marie (HQ-NC060); Fisher, Amy; Segall, Samantha B. (KSC)[USA]
Subject: RE: Breakfast with Peggy Whitson

Yes we could definitely do that. Please send along a first draft and I will coordinate with Brown-Waite.

Liz Berry
Legislative Assistant
Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords
502 Cannon House Office Building
(202) 225-2542

Sign-up to receive e-updates from Congresswoman Giffords at www.giffords.house.gov

From: Laver, Susan Theresa.Marie (HQ-NC060) [mailto:susan.t.laver@nasa.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 09, 2008 2:00 PM
To: Fisher, Amy; Segall, Samantha B. (KSC)[USA]; Berry, Liz
Subject: Re: Breakfast with Peggy Whitson

Also, wanted to get your take on having a Giffords and Brown-Waite dear colleague? I could provide a first draft.

Let me know your thought.

----- Original Message -----

From: Fisher, Amy <Amy.Fisher@mail.house.gov>
To: Laver, Susan Theresa.Marie (HQ-NC060); Segall, Samantha B. (KSC)[USA]; Berry, Liz <Liz.Berry@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Mon Jun 09 10:54:39 2008
Subject: RE: Breakfast with Peggy Whitson

That sounds interesting!

-----Original Message-----

From: Laver, Susan Theresa.Marie (HQ-NC060)
[mailto:susan.t.laver@nasa.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 09, 2008 11:54 AM
To: Segall, Samantha B. (KSC)[USA]; Berry, Liz; Fisher, Amy
Subject: RE: Breakfast with Peggy Whitson

This all sounds good--sorry to bother. Please let me know if you have any questions. Just want to let you know that we were hoping that Peggy would have the ability to give a presentation with a short video of her mission streaming in the background. Does anyone object to this?

Susan Laver
NASA HQ
300 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20546

6/16/2008

(202) 358-3884, Office
(202) 358-3452, Fax
(202) 365-6730, Cellular

<http://legislative.nasa.gov/>

www.nasa.gov/city , See NASA in Your Life...

-----Original Message-----

From: Segall, Samantha B. [mailto:Samantha.B.Segall@usa-spaceops.com]
Sent: Monday, June 09, 2008 11:52 AM
To: Berry, Liz; Fisher, Amy; Laver, Susan Theresa.Marie (HQ-NC060)
Subject: RE: Breakfast with Peggy Whitson

Sure! Kate, my boss, wants on Senate/House Members and staff to come...
Only prob is the food/space for room, so we are going to have an RSVP.

The invite should be done by noon!

Thanks!

-----Original Message-----

From: Berry, Liz [mailto:Liz.Berry@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 09, 2008 11:48 AM
To: Fisher, Amy; Segall, Samantha B.; Laver, Susan Theresa.Marie (HQ-NC060)
Subject: FW: Breakfast with Peggy Whitson

Hi Susan,

Samantha is coordinating getting an invite out today. Samantha--can we send to Senate too?

Liz Berry
Legislative Assistant
Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords
502 Cannon House Office Building
(202) 225-2542

Sign-up to receive e-updates from Congresswoman Giffords at
www.giffords.house.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Laver, Susan Theresa.Marie (HQ-NC060)
[mailto:susan.t.laver@nasa.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 09, 2008 11:47 AM
To: Berry, Liz
Subject: RE: Breakfast with Peggy Whitson

Liz,

Good morning.

At this point, do you need anything from me? Is it possible that the invite might go out to the Senate too?

Thank you,

6/16/2008

Susan Laver
NASA HQ
300 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20546
(202) 358-3884, Office
(202) 358-3452, Fax
(202) 365-6730, Cellular

<http://legislative.nasa.gov/>

www.nasa.gov/city , See NASA in Your Life...

-----Original Message-----

From: Berry, Liz [<mailto:Liz.Berry@mail.house.gov>]
Sent: Friday, June 06, 2008 5:25 PM
To: Cannon, Courtney
Cc: Fisher, Amy; Segall, Samantha B. (KSC)[USA]; Coleman, Kathren;
Roberts, Roselee (HQ-AA000); Laver, Susan Theresa.Marie (HQ-NC060);
Heaton, Anna
Subject: RE: Breakfast with Peggy Whitson

Great thanks Courtney!

We will keep you posted about location, etc.

Best,
Liz

Liz Berry
Legislative Assistant
Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords
502 Cannon House Office Building
(202) 225-2542

Sign-up to receive e-updates from Congresswoman Giffords at
www.giffords.house.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Cannon, Courtney
Sent: Friday, June 06, 2008 5:09 PM
To: Berry, Liz
Subject: FW: Breakfast with Peggy Whitson

Courtney Cannon

Executive Assistant

Congresswoman Ginny Brown-Waite (FL-05)

414 Cannon Building, Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202.225.1002 ~ Fax: 202.226.6559

Liz:
Congresswoman Brown-Waite is fine with being on the invitation for the
breakfast at June 18th. I have also added this event on her calendar.

6/16/2008

From: Berry, Liz
Sent: Thursday, June 05, 2008 5:30 PM
To: Grabelle, Justin
Cc: Coleman, Kathren; Fisher, Amy; 'Laver, Susan Theresa.Marie (HQ-NC060)'; Roberts, Roselee (HQ-AA000)
Subject: Breakfast with Peggy Whitson

Hi Justin,

Congresswoman Giffords is hosting a breakfast at 10 AM on June 18 that will feature Astronaut Peggy Whitson, who recently spent six months aboard the International Space Station.

Because Congresswoman Brown-Waite is so supportive of NASA, Congresswoman Giffords wanted to ask her to co-host the breakfast as a member of the Congressional Women's Caucus. As you may know, Congresswoman Giffords' husband, Commander Mark Kelly, is currently commanding STS-124 that is in space right now.

Please let me know if this sounds like something your boss might be interested in. We will work out the details but just wanted to get your boss on board.

Thanks!
Liz

Liz Berry
Legislative Assistant
Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords
502 Cannon House Office Building
(202) 225-2542

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www.giffords.house.gov
<<http://www.giffords.house.gov/contact/mailling-list/>>