

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



Reply to Attn of: LS01 (WAC)

August 28, 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: LS01/William J. Bierbower

SUBJECT: Blanket approval to attend the 2008 Annual Outing sponsored by the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce

In accordance with 5 C.F.R. 2635.204(g)(2) and (3), I make the following determination:

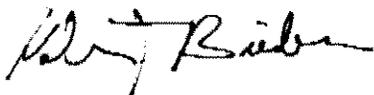
NASA invitees, accompanied by their spouse or a guest, may attend the 2008 Annual Outing sponsored by the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce at Ditto Landing Pavilion on October 2, 2008. The purpose of the event is to honor NASA and the Military.

This event will be a widely-attended gathering of approximately 300 representatives of government, the aerospace industry, small businesses, and the community. A buffet will be served at a cost of approximately \$25 per person and an open bar will be available. The event is fully funded by the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce. I find that the event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR §2635.204(g)(2).

I have determined that free attendance at the above mentioned event is in the interest of the agency because it will further agency programs and operations. The attendance of NASA employees at the event will help to raise NASA's profile with state and local business and governmental leaders, will contribute to community relations, and will support NASA's statutory mandate to disseminate information about its activities. Given the purpose of the event, the broad attendance anticipated, and the modest market value of this social event, I have determined that the value to the agency in having employees 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 that have been invited to attend may accept free attendance at the event. They may also accept invitations for accompanying spouses or guests. NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce, or a majority of its members, are not covered in this determination and should seek a specific determination from this office pursuant to 5 CFR 2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding their participation in this event.

Questions about this determination may be addressed to Bill Cassels at 256-544-0904.



William J. Bierbower  
Chief Counsel

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



Reply to Attn of: LS01 (WAC)

August 28, 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: LS01/William J. Bierbower

SUBJECT: Approval for MSFC Employees with Senior Institutional and Senior Administrative Responsibilities to attend the 2008 Annual Outing sponsored by the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce

In accordance with 5 C.F.R. 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 the 2008 Annual Outing sponsored by the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce (Chamber of Commerce) at Ditto Landing on October 2, 2008. The purpose of the event is to honor NASA and the Military.

The Chamber of Commerce is the lead economic development organization for Huntsville/Madison County, providing assistance for business expansion and recruitment, and delivering information regarding available sites, labor force, workforce development, taxation, finance programs and incentives. Members of the Chamber of Commerce include many NASA contractors and suppliers.

This event will be a widely-attended gathering of representatives of government, aerospace industry, small businesses, and community leaders. The reception is valued at \$25 per person and approximately 300 individuals have been invited to attend. The reception, which is fully funded by the Chamber of Commerce, will include a buffet and an open bar. I find that the reception meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR §2635.204(g)(2).

Attendance of MSFC employees with senior institutional or project management responsibilities at this event would be in the best interest of NASA, since it will further NASA programs and operations. MSFC personnel invited to attend this event have, or may soon have, duties that involve frequent interaction with Chamber of Commerce and may substantially affect the Chamber's interests or the interest of a majority of the

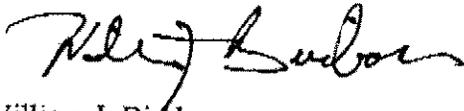
Chamber's members.<sup>1</sup> These personnel are similarly situated in that they each have institutional responsibilities for MSFC that involve significant community relations responsibilities that could significantly influence Chamber programs and activities.

I have determined that attendance of these senior institutional and project leaders at the 2008 Annual Outing is in the interest of NASA because it will further agency programs and operations, help to raise NASA's profile with state and local business and governmental leaders, enhance to community relations, and support NASA's statutory mandate to disseminate information about its programs.

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 Chamber's members is addressed in a separate determination.

Questions about this determination may be addressed to Bill Cassels at 256-544-0904.



William J. Bierbower  
Chief Counsel

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<sup>1</sup> Based on the invitation list provided, those personnel, identified by position, are: MSFC Center Director; Deputy Center Director; Associate Center Director; Chief Counsel and Deputy Chief Counsel; MAF Chief Operating Officer; MAF Transition Director; Director and Deputy Director, Office of Center Operations; Director, Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications; Deputy Director, Public & Employee Communications Office; Director and Deputy Director, Engineering Directorate; Assistant Director, Engineering Directorate; Associate Director for Operations, Engineering Directorate; Chief Engineer and Deputy Chief Engineer, Engineering Directorate; Assistant to Chief Engineer, Chief Engineers Office; Supervisor, Materials & Processes Laboratory; Supervisor, Mission Operations Laboratory; Deputy Supervisor, Space Systems Department; Supervisor and Deputy Supervisor, Spacecraft & Vehicle Systems Department; Deputy Supervisor, Test Laboratory; Director and Deputy Director and Special Assistant to Director, Office of Human Capital; Manager and Deputy Manager, ARES Projects Office; Manager and Deputy Manager, Shuttle Propulsion Office; Supervisor Program Planning & Control Office.