

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



November 6, 2008

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 Reception and Dinner sponsored by the Council on Competitiveness, November 12, 2008

On November 12, 2008, The Council for Competitiveness will host a reception and dinner honoring Leaders in American Competitiveness at the Newseum Conference Center in Washington, DC. The Council for Competitiveness is a nonpartisan, nongovernmental organization whose goal is to shape the debate on competitiveness by bringing together business, labor, academic and government leaders to evaluate economic challenges and opportunities. Conferences, seminars and special events are used to disseminate the Council's findings and recommendations to experts, policy makers, government officials, media and the general public.

The Council on Competitiveness will be honoring leaders in American competitiveness at this event. Honorees include senior Federal government officials, leaders of industry, and leaders of educational institutions. The Reception and Dinner will be widely attended by NASA employees, other Federal Agency Officials, members of Congress, leaders of educational institutions, and the media. The estimated cost of the reception and dinner, which includes all food and beverages, is \$71 per person. 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 NASA personnel attending the event. The reception and dinner will allow NASA employees the opportunity to discuss the NASA's programs and NASA's contribution to American competitiveness in the world. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the event sponsors may accept an invitation for free attendance to the reception for themselves and their invited spouses or guests.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the event 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 local ethics counselor.

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

Adam F. Greenstone