

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



January 12, 2009

Reply to Attn of:

General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Widely-Attended Gathering Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at the 2009 Florida Inaugural Ball on January 19, 2009

On January 19, 2009, the Florida House and Florida State Society will host and sponsor the 2009 "Florida Sunshine and Stars" Inaugural Ball at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D. C., from 6:30pm to 1:00am. The ball will take place on the evening before the inauguration of the new President, Barrack Obama.

The ball will be attended by senior leaders of the aerospace industry, trade associations, congressional staffs, and other Federal personnel, including military officers. The entire Florida Congressional Delegation and state-wide elected officials have been invited to the gala, including Governor Charlie Christ. Approximately 200 people have been invited to the reception and dinner afterward and 700 are expected to attend the ball. The estimated cost of a ticket is \$150.00 and the cost of dinner is \$25.00 per person. I find that the 2009 Florida Inaugural Ball 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 Agency programs or operations. Attendance at the event will allow NASA representatives to discuss NASA programs and space exploration with other attendees. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the Florida House and the Florida State Society, or a majority or all of its members, may accept an invitation for free attendance to the ball.

NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the Florida House and Florida State Society 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 cursive script, appearing to read "Adam F. Greenstone".

Adam F. Greenstone