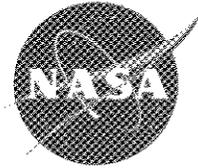


National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



February 8, 2011

General Law Practice Group

Reply to Attn of:

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at the FAA
Commercial Space Transportation Conference on February 8-10, 2011

On February 9-10, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) will hold its annual Commercial Space Transportation Conference. The conference provides a forum for policymakers and technical experts to share their insights and discuss developments in commercial space transportation and other related industries. 353 people, who are interested in space transportation, will be attending the conference from Congress, the Federal government, industry, and academia. The FAA is hosting the conference itself. This determination addresses the two receptions and two lunches associated with this Conference that are hosted by non-Federal entities.

VIP RECEPTION (Tuesday, February 8th)

On Tuesday, February 8th, the FAA and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), a non-profit 501(c)(3), will host a welcome reception for 160 of the conference attendees from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Washington Convention Center. The approximate cost of the reception is \$85.00 per person and there will be senior representatives of Congress, the Federal government, industry, and academia in attendance.

LUNCHEON (Wednesday, February 9th)

On Wednesday, February 9th, the Boeing Company will sponsor a luncheon for all the conference attendees from 12:30-1:45 p.m. at the Washington Convention Center. The approximate cost of the luncheon is \$55 per person.

RECEPTION (Wednesday, February 9th)

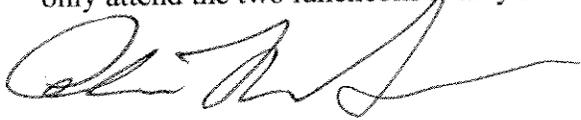
On Wednesday, February 9th, the FAA and AIAA will host a welcome reception for all the conference attendees from 5:30 – 7 p.m. at the Washington Convention Center. The approximate cost of the reception is \$85 per person.

LUNCHEON (Thursday, February 10th)

On Thursday, February 10th, the United Launch Alliance will sponsor a luncheon for all the conference attendees from 12:30 – 1:45 p.m. at the Washington Convention Center. The approximate cost of the luncheon is \$55 per person.

I find that these two lunches and two receptions meet the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(2). I have determined that free attendance at the above-mentioned events is in the interest of the agency because it will further agency programs and operations. All of the events will provide NASA employees with the opportunity to discuss the mission and other NASA programs with others who are interested in space transportation.

Accordingly, NASA employees who have been invited may accept free attendance at the conference, including the two luncheons and two receptions. However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the event sponsors, such as by way of contracting duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(3)(i), regarding participation in these events from their local ethics counselor. Moreover, NASA employees who are in non-career positions in which Executive Order 13490 requires signing an ethics pledge may accept free attendance at the conference and two receptions but may only attend the two luncheons if they reimburse the sponsors for the cost of lunch.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam F. Greenstone", written in a cursive style.

Adam F. Greenstone