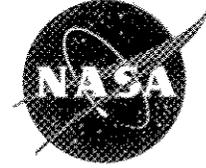


National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



April 22, 2011

Reply to Attn of: General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

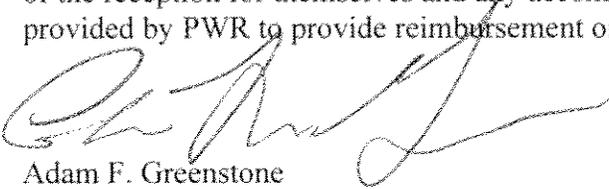
SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at an STS-134 Post-Launch Reception Hosted by Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne (PWR) on April 29, 2011

NASA invitees, accompanied by their spouse or a guest, may attend a post-launch reception sponsored by Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne at the Hilton Oceanfront Hotel, Cocoa Beach, Florida, on April 29, 2011, from 5:30 PM – 9:30 PM.

This event will be a widely-attended gathering of approximately 300 representatives of the government, the aerospace industry and the community. Food and refreshments will be served at a cost of approximately \$35 per person. I find that the reception meets the requirements of a “widely attended gathering” as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(2). I have determined that attendance at the above mentioned reception is in the interest of the agency because it will further agency programs and operations. The event will provide NASA employees an opportunity to discuss the mission and other NASA programs with representatives of the communities participating in the reception.

Accordingly, NASA employees who have been invited to attend may accept the gift of attendance at the event. They may also accept invitations for accompanying spouses or guests. However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect PWR, 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.

Moreover, NASA employees who are in non-career positions in which the Executive Order 13490 requires signing an ethics pledge may only attend if they reimburse the sponsors the cost of the reception for themselves and any accompanying guest. An “honor basket” will be provided by PWR to provide reimbursement on site.


Adam F. Greenstone