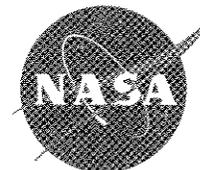


National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
George C. Marshall Space Flight Center  
Marshall Space Flight Center, AL 35812



July 15, 2011

Reply to Attn of: LS01 (AMM)

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: LS01/James R. Frees

SUBJECT: Approval For NASA Marshall Space Flight Center Deputy Director  
For the Office Of Center Operations to Attend the Tennessee Valley  
BRAC Committee Reception and Dinner at the Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa

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

The NASA Marshall Deputy Director for Center Operations, accompanied by his guest, has been invited to attend the Tennessee Valley BRAC Committee Reception and Dinner at the Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa in Florence, Alabama. This event will be held on July 20, 2011. Updates on BRAC will be provided from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Then there will be a cocktail reception at 4:30 p.m. followed by dinner. The purpose of the event is to honor the Tennessee Valley BRAC Committee members, to celebrate their success, and begin preparing for the future.

This event will be a widely-attended gathering of approximately 125 representatives of state, county, and city elected officials; Redstone Arsenal and other military leaders, and Chamber of Commerce members from several Tennessee Valley communities. A cocktail reception will be hosted by the Florence Chamber of Commerce at a cost of approximately \$12 per person. The dinner is provided by the Tennessee Valley BRAC Committee at a cost of approximately \$34 per person. 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 the Deputy Director for Center Operations 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 reasonable market value of this social event, I have determined that the value to the agency in having the Deputy Director for Center Operations and his guest attend this event outweighs any concern that free attendance may or may appear to improperly influence him in the performance of his duties.

Accordingly, the Deputy Director for Center Operations and his guest may accept free attendance at the event.

The Florence Chamber of Commerce and the Tennessee Valley BRAC Committee are not lobbying organizations and are not registered as such under the Lobbying Disclosure Act.

Questions about this determination may be addressed to Annette Metcalf Coffel at 256-544-0025.

  
James R. Frees  
Acting Chief Counsel