

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



October 28, 2011

Reply to Attn of: General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

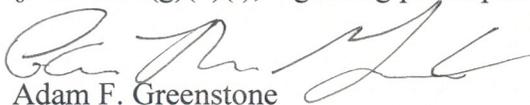
FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at the John Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory's (JHUAPL) New Space Department Building on November 1, 2011

On November 1, 2011, John Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (JHUAPL), a non-profit organization under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, will host a Dedication Ceremony for the John Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory's new Space Department building in Laurel, Maryland, at 2 PM-4 PM. This event is a ribbon cutting ceremony. The event is to provide attendees with an opportunity for the aerospace community to share views with colleagues.

Approximately 60 people have been invited to attend, including NASA personnel, NOAA personnel, Members of Congress and congressional staff, state and local officials, and representatives of the aerospace industry. The estimated cost of the event, which includes all food and beverages, is \$15.00 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)(2). I have determined that free 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 this event. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the event sponsor or a majority of its members may accept an invitation for free attendance to the event for themselves and their spouses or guests.

Moreover, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the event sponsors, including NASA employees in non-career positions who are required to sign the ethics pledge under Executive Order 13490 may accept an invitation for free attendance to the event. However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the event sponsor, 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.


Adam F. Greenstone