

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001

January 24, 2012



General Law Practice Group

Reply to Attn of:

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA employees at Loral Space Reception on January 24, 2012

On January 24, 2012, Loral Space is hosting a cocktail reception at the Marriot Hotel at Convention, in New Orleans, LA from 4 PM - 9:00 PM. The purpose of this event, which is held adjacent to the American Meteorological Society's Annual Meeting, is to have informal discussions among the interested community about scientific instruments on geostationary communication satellites.

Representatives from academia, industry, and of both civilian and armed services Federal agencies will attend this event. About 40-50 people are expected to attend. The estimated cost of the luncheon, including all food and beverages, is \$40 per person.

I find that the event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(2). 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 attendees to exchange information regarding various NASA programs.

Accordingly, NASA employees who have been invited to attend may accept free attendance at the event. They may also accept invitations for accompanying spouses or guests.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect [the 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.

Moreover, NASA employees who are in non-career positions for which they are required to sign an ethics pledge under Executive Order 13490 may only attend if they reimburse the sponsors the cost of the event for themselves and accompanying guests.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam F. Greenstone". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Adam F. Greenstone