

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



April 27, 2012

Reply to Attn of:

General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance at the National Aeronautic Association's 101st Robert J. Collier Dinner on May 10, 2012

On May 10, 2012, the National Aeronautic Association (NAA), a non-profit organization organized under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, will hold its annual Robert J. Collier Award Dinner, at Hangar 7 in Washington, D.C. The NAA is a nonprofit organization, which provides a forum for all members of the aviation/aerospace community to share information of common interest. The membership includes Congress, DoD, the FAA, NASA, aviation and aerospace manufacturers, airline officials, the media, and other individuals who have an interest in aviation. The Robert J. Collier Trophy is awarded annually "for the greatest achievement in aeronautics and astronautics in America, with respect to improving the performance, efficiency, and safety of air or space vehicles, the value of which has been thoroughly demonstrated by actual use during the preceding year."

The Robert J. Collier Award dinner will be a widely-attended gathering of over 500 people from all sectors of the aviation community and government. Tickets to the dinner, valued at \$125 per person, are being offered to some NASA personnel at no cost. Although member corporations provide open seating at their tables to accommodate guests invited by NAA, the NAA is solely responsible for selecting, inviting, and seating of NASA guests. NASA employees that were members of the Commercial Aviation Safety Team will be honored.

I find that the dinner meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g). I further determine that there is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend this event so that NASA invitees may attend the event without charge. Accordingly, NASA employees, including non-career appointees subject to the Ethics Pledge in Executive Order 13490, whose duties do not substantially affect NAA may accept an invitation for free attendance to the dinner for themselves and their spouses or guests.

NASA employees whose duties substantially affect NAA, for instance by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam F. Greenstone".

Adam F. Greenstone