

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

**Headquarters**

Washington, DC 20546-0001



October 23, 2012

Reply to Attn of: General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Advice Regarding Attendance by NASA Attendees at the National Geographic (NatGeo) and the Jet Propulsion Laboratories Reception in Honor of 50 years of Solar System Exploration on October 24, 2012

On October 24, 2012, National Geographic (NatGeo) and the Jet Propulsion Laboratories will host a reception preceding a public panel discussion in honor of 50 years of solar system exploration. The reception will be held at the NatGeo Dining Hall in Washington, D.C., from 6:00 -7:30 pm. Approximately, 100 people were invited to attend the event, including representatives from NASA, industry, academia, Congress and staff, other Federal agencies, media, and the public. The sponsors estimate the value of refreshments provided at the reception, including all food and beverages, to be on average \$20.00 per person.

The \$20 gift exception at 5 C.F.R. §2635.204(a) provides that employees may accept gifts valued at no more than \$20 per occasion and no more than \$50 from one source in a calendar year. NASA employees, including non-career NASA employees subject to the ethics pledge, invited to and desiring to attend this event may accept free refreshments if the fair market value of the food and drink consumed is less than \$20. If \$20 or more is consumed, the employee should personally provide that amount to the hosts as reimbursement. An honor box will be provided for this purpose.

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

Adam F. Greenstone