

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



November 15, 2012

Reply to Attn of:

General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

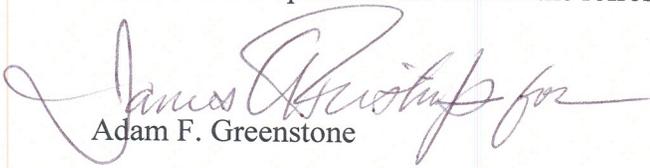
SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA employees at the Symposium and Memorial Service hosted by University of Maryland, Institute of Physical Science on November 16-17, 2012

On November 16-17, 2012, the University of Maryland, Institute of Physical Science will host a symposium and a memorial service in Memory of Dr. Frank B. McDonald at the Clubhouse at Mulligan's in College Park, Maryland, from 9 AM to 5 PM. The memorial service will be held on November 17, 2012 at the Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church in Adelphi, Maryland, at 11 AM.

Approximately 125 people will attend the event, including NASA personnel, scientist and faculty. The estimated cost of the reception, including all food and beverages, is \$39.00 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. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the event sponsors may accept an invitation for free attendance to the event.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the sponsors such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.205(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 the reception if they reimburse the sponsors the cost of the refreshments consumed.


Adam F. Greenstone