

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



November 16, 2012

General Law Practice Group

Reply to Attn of:

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

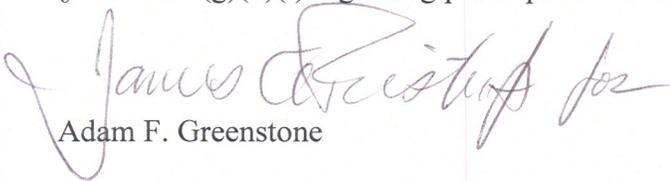
SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Attendees at the Annual Scholarship Awards Banquet and Educational Showcase hosted by BDPA Northern Delaware (BDPA) on November 17, 2012

On November 17, 2012, the BDPA Northern Delaware (BDPA), a non-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, will host its Annual Scholarship Awards Banquet and Educational Showcase. The event will take place at the Sheraton Wilmington, 422 Delaware Avenue, in Wilmington, Delaware at 5 PM. The presenter will be Jackie R. Gill, NASA's Deputy Associate Chief Information Officer for Architecture and Infrastructure.

Approximately 200 people are expected to attend. The estimated cost of the event including all food and beverages is \$65.00 per person. The event will be attended by Members of Congress, U.S. Senators, mayors, corporate leaders, educational leaders, members of the BDPA, and students and their families. I find that this event 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 the event because it will further Agency programs or operations. Attendance at the event will provide NASA attendees with the opportunity to discuss science and exploration related initiatives with other guests. Accordingly, NASA employees – including non-career appointees required to sign the ethics pledge under Executive Order 13490 – 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.

  
Adam F. Greenstone