

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



December 12, 2012

Reply to Attn of: General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Attendees at the 26th Annual Federal Communications Bar Association (FCBA) Chairman's Dinner on December 13, 2012

On December 13, 2012, the Federal Communications Bar Association (FCBA), a non-profit organization under section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code, will host its 26th Annual Chairman's Dinner. The event will take place at the Washington Hilton Hotel, in Washington, D.C., from 6 PM to 9 PM. Approximate 1500 people are expected to attend. The estimated cost of the event including all food and beverages is \$225.00 per person.

The FCBA is in control of seating. The event will be attended by representatives of the legislative branch, various executive branch agencies, and lawyers from various segments of the communications bar. 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 exchange information regarding various NASA programs and obtain current information on developments in communications law.

Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the sponsor, including NASA employees in non-career positions who are required to sign the ethics pledge under Executive Order 13490, may accept an invitation for themselves and an invited guest for free attendance to the event *from the FCBA*.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the event sponsor, such as by way of procurement duties, or who receive an invitation to attend from an entity other than the FCBA, 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.

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

Adam F. Greenstone