

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



April 23, 2013

General Law Practice Group

Reply to Attn of:

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at a Public Lecture and Reception Sponsored by the Carnegie Institution for Science on April 23, 2013

On April 23, 2013, the Carnegie Institution for Science, a not-for-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code, will host a public lecture and reception. The event will be held in the Carnegies Institution's historic headquarters building, at 1530 P Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., at 6:45 PM.

The speakers for this event will be Dr. Erik Asphaug of the School of Earth and Space Exploration at Arizona State University, Dr. William Bottkje, Director of the Department of Space Studies of the Southwest Research Institute in Boulder, Colorado, and the Center for Lunar Origin and Evolution of NASA's Lunar Science Institute, and Dr. Jessica Sunshine of the Department of Astronomy at University of Maryland.

Approximately 60 people were invited to attend. Attendees will include congressional staff and other government officials, scientists, and friends of the institution. The estimated cost of the event, including all food and beverages, is around \$36.00 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. Attendance at the event will allow NASA attendees to exchange information on NASA's programs and policies. 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.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the event 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.

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

Adam F. Greenstone