

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



September 29, 2015

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 21st Century Fox Screening and Reception on September 29, 2015

On September 29, 2015, the 21st Century Fox, will host a screening and reception at the National Geographic Society in Washington, D.C., at 6:15 p.m. This event is a panel discussion and opening remarks followed by the screening of *The Martian* movie. The guest speaker is Charles F. Bolden Jr., Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Approximately 385 people are expected to attend including Congressional staff, District of Columbia government officials, NASA personnel, Fox employees, and cast members. The estimated value of the refreshments, which includes all food and beverages, is \$56 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).

I further determine that there is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event because it will further Agency programs or operations. In addition, attendance at the screening and reception will allow NASA representatives to discuss NASA's programs and plans with the other attendees. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect 21st Century Fox, may accept an invitation for free attendance to the event.

NASA employees who are in non-career positions in which the President's Executive Order 13490 of January 21, 2009, requires signing an ethics pledge, may only attend this event if they reimburse the hosts the value of the screening.

Moreover, NASA employees whose duties substantially affect the host, 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.

Attendees are reminded of the \$20 gift exception at 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(a) which 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).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam F. Greenstone', written in a cursive style.

Adam F. Greenstone