

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



May 24, 2016

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 Space Foundation Scott Kelly reception on May 25, 2016

On May 25, 2016, Space Foundation, a nonprofit organization under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, will host a reception at the U.S. Capital Visitor's Center in Washington, DC on May 25, 2016. The Space Foundation is in control of the arrangements for this event. The guest speaker for the reception is Captain Scott Kelly, U.S. Navy (Retired).

Approximately 800 people have been invited to attend, including members of Congress and their staff, personnel from the industry, and employees from Federal agencies. The estimated value of refreshments served at the events, including all food and refreshments, is approximately \$45 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 regarding NASA programs and hear views that relate to NASA's policies and plans from representatives of various sectors. Accordingly, NASA employees, including NASA employees who are in non-career positions in which Executive Order 13490 requires signing an ethics pledge, who have been invited to attend may accept free attendance to this event.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the Space Foundation, or a majority of its members, such as by way of contracting duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in these events from their local ethics counselor to attend under the widely attended gathering exception.

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

Adam F. Greenstone