

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



April 17, 2014

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 2014 Aerospace Spotlight Awards Gala hosted by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Associates (AIAA) on April 30, 2014

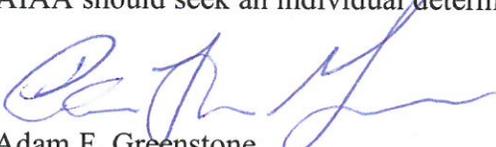
On April 30, 2014, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), a non-profit organization under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, will host a gala event including a reception and dinner at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, in Washington, D.C., beginning at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Approximately 550 people have been invited to attend, including aerospace leaders in the industry, academia, and the government. The ticket price of the gala reception and dinner, including all food and beverages, is \$320 per person. At the event, various individuals—including U.S. Government employees—will receive professional recognition for significant contributions to aeronautics and astronautics. AIAA controls the seating of its guests.

I find that this 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 gala will allow NASA representatives to exchange information on NASA programs and policies with key personnel from throughout the U.S. aerospace community.

Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the AIAA, 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 from AIAA for free attendance to the event. However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect AIAA, 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 NASA ethics counselor.

NASA employees who receive an invitation to the gala from a person or party other than the AIAA should seek an individual determination from their local NASA ethics counselor.


Adam F. Greenstone