

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



November 27, 2013

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 Ball Aerospace  
"Celebration of Innovation" Reception on December 3, 2013

On December 3, 2013, Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corporation (Ball) will host the Celebration of Innovation Reception at the Ronald Reagan Building, Rotunda, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

Approximately 600 guests have been invited to attend. This event will provide an informal opportunity to meet and discuss various technologies, accomplishments, and overall progress in space/defense strategic programs. Invitees include members of Congress and Congressional staff, aerospace industry representatives, academia, and personnel from other Federal agencies. The cost of the event, which includes food and beverages, will be approximately \$35.00-50.00 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 free attendance at the above mentioned event is in the interest of the agency because it will further agency programs and operations. Attendance at this event will allow NASA attendees to exchange information regarding various NASA programs. Accordingly, NASA employees (subject to the exceptions noted below) who have been invited to attend may accept free attendance at the event.

*However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the event sponsors, 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 this event from their local ethics counselor. Moreover, NASA employees who are in non-career positions in which Executive Order 13490 requires signing an ethics pledge may only attend if they reimburse the sponsors the value of the event.*

*Kathleen T. Apean*

Adam F. Greenstone

*Jon*