

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



January 9, 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 Inauguration Reception Sponsored by Nancy Conrad and Reggie Van Lee on January 20, 2013

On January 20, 2013, Nancy Conrad and Reggie Van Lee will host an event to celebrate the inauguration of President Barack Obama, at Watergate South, 700 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W., Apt. 1021, in Washington, D.C., from 4 PM to 8 PM.

Attending the event will be representatives from industry, academia, other non-profit organizations, and other areas. Approximately 70 people have been invited and are expected to attend. The estimated cost of the reception, which includes all food and beverages, is \$20 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. Attendance at the event will allow NASA representatives to discuss NASA's program plans with guests from various sectors with an interest in NASA-related initiatives. Accordingly, NASA employees – including non-career appointees for whom Executive Order 13490 requires signing the ethics pledge – whose duties do not substantially affect the event sponsors may accept an invitation for free attendance to the reception for themselves and their invited spouses or guests.

However, NASA employees whose duties affect the event sponsors, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.205(g)(3)(1) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.

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

Adam F. Greenstone