

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



October 1, 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 National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering Board reception and dinner on October 3, 2013.

On October 3, 2013, the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering (NACME) and the BP Foundation, both not-for-profit organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code, will hold a reception and dinner. This event will take place at 101 Constitution Rooftop Terrace, Washington, D.C., at 5:30 p.m.

Approximately 120 people are invited. Attendees will include NASA personnel, congressional staff, the NACME Board of Directors and representatives of NACME Partner Universities. The estimated cost of the event, including all food and beverages, is approximately \$180 per person. The purpose of the event is to conclude a week of public events supporting the NACME mission of increasing the representation of minorities in engineering and STEM fields.

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 on NASA's programs and policies. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the sponsors, 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 for free attendance to the event.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the event sponsor, 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 ethics counselor.

Kathleen T. Spear

Jo Adam F. Greenstone