

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



May 18, 2015

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 Transportation Association (STA) Lunch on May 18, 2015

On Monday, May 18, 2015, the Space Transportation Association (STA), a nonprofit organization under 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code, will host a lunch at the Russell Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C., from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. The guest speaker is Mr. Charles Bolden, Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Approximately 300 people have been invited to attend, including Congressional members and staff, media, academia, industry representatives, members of the public, and employees of other Federal agencies. The estimated cost of the lunch, including all food and beverages, is \$40 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 various NASA programs.

NASA employees – including NASA employees who are in non-career positions for which they are required to sign an ethics pledge under Executive Order 13490 – whose duties do not substantially affect the STA or a majority of its members, may accept an invitation for free attendance to the lunch for themselves.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the STA or a majority of its members, 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.

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

Adam F. Greenstone