

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



March 20, 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 Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Connector Reception on March 24, 2015

On Tuesday, March 24, 2015, the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Connector, a consortium of companies, nonprofit associations and professional societies, STEM-related research & policy organizations, government entities, universities and academic institutions concerned with STEM education, will host a reception at McKenna Long & Aldridge in Washington, D.C., from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The purpose of the event is to provide an opportunity for STEMconnector members and partners to network a chance to meet before the Council's Meeting.

Approximately 50 people have been invited to attend, including Congressional members and staff, state and local officials, media, academia, industry representatives, and employees of other Federal agencies. The estimated cost of the reception, including 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)(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 STEMconnector or a majority of its members, may accept an invitation for free attendance to the reception for themselves and a guest.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the STEMconnector 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