

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

**Headquarters**

Washington, DC 20546-0001



August 5, 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 Universities Space Research Association Dinner on August 12, 2015

On Wednesday, August 12, 2015, the Universities Space Research Association (USRA), a nonprofit organization under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, will host a dinner at USRA Headquarters, Columbia, Maryland, at 5:30 p.m. The event is to honor Dr. Frederick A. Tarantino for his contributions to space science.

Approximately 100 people have been invited to attend, including personnel from other Federal agencies, USRA members and USRA Council of Institutions, USRA Board of Trustees and USRA Executive Management, academia, the media, and representatives of the aerospace industry. The estimated cost of the dinner, including all food and beverages, is \$125.00 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 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 whose duties do not substantially affect the USRA, or a majority of its members, including NASA employees in non-career positions who are required to sign the ethics pledge under Executive Order 13490, may accept an invitation for free attendance to the event.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the USRA, 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