

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



**Mary W. Jackson Building NASA Headquarters**  
Washington, DC 20546-0001

March 18, 2026

Reply to Attn of: General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Agency Counsel for Ethics

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA employees at the  
Maryland Space Business Roundtable Event on March 26, 2026

On March 26, 2026, Maryland Space Business Roundtable (MSBR), a nonprofit organization under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, will host an evening social with the President of the organization providing welcoming remarks at Busboys and Poets event venue in Hyattsville, Maryland, from 4:30 pm – 7 pm .

Approximately 75 people have been invited to attend. Guests of NASA personnel are not invited. Attendees will have a diversity of views or interests and will include representatives of the U.S. legislative branch, state and local government, academia, industry, other federal agencies, as well as members of the public and media. The estimated cost of the event, including all food and beverages, is \$ 15 per person.

MSBR is in control of the organizing, planning and invitations for this event. Attendance at this event will allow NASA attendees to exchange information regarding various NASA programs. 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 provide an opportunity for the invited persons to exchange ideas and views pertaining to NASA’s policies, programs and operations. NASA employees, who do not have a significant role in a matter affecting the interests of the sponsor may accept an invitation for free attendance to the event. In those circumstances, I find that the Agency’s interest in attendance outweighs any concern that the individual may be, or may appear to be, improperly influenced in the performance of their duties.

However, NASA employees who have a significant role in any pending matter affecting the interests of MSBR, such as procurement duties, program management, or negotiating or administering a Space Act Agreement, should seek a separate determination from their local ethics counselor as to whether they may accept the invitation.

Adam F. Greenstone