

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



October 28, 2004

Reply to Attn of: Office of the General Counsel

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Blanket Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at the Space Flight Awareness Event, November 9, 2004

On November 9, 2004, a Space Flight Awareness (SFA) event will be held at the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) Facility, Saint-Hubert, Quebec, Canada. The event will recognize the Canadian Space Station Program (CSSP) Team for their contributions to human spaceflight. Presentations will be made during an awards and ribbon cutting event for the Remote Multipurpose Service Room. Mr. O'Keefe will present the "Silver Snoopy", Leadership and Team Awards, as well as a plaque, to the CSA. It has been determined to be in the best interest of the Government for those NASA employees who are invited to this event to attend in their official capacities and as representatives of NASA.

The Boeing Company, Lockheed Martin and United Space Alliance will sponsor a reception and dinner in honor of the award recipients. The event will be a widely attended gathering of approximately 250 persons, which includes representatives of NASA, industry, the Canadian Space Agency, and Canadian government officials. The estimated cost for food and beverages is \$60, per person. This event is part of NASA's ongoing motivation program that recognizes, through the SFA Program, outstanding employees from both government and industry who have performed exemplary work in support of our Nation's space program. I find that these events meet the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR § 2635.204(g). Consequently, I conclude that NASA's interest in its employees attending this event outweighs any concern that free attendance may, or may appear to, improperly influence any NASA personnel in the performance of their official duties.

Accordingly, NASA invitees and their spouses or guests may attend the event without charge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Andrew Falcon", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

R. Andrew Falcon