

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



February 23, 2004

Reply to Attn of:

GG

TO: Distribution

FROM: G/General Counsel

SUBJECT: Blanket Determination Regarding Attendance at the Opening Day of the 6th
Annual Space Shuttle Suppliers Network, February 24-25, 2004

On February 24, 2004, the Space Shuttle Suppliers Network (Network) will host the opening day activities of their 6th annual meeting at B. Smith's Restaurant located in Union Station, Washington, DC. The Network is a group of small, medium, and large business owners and executives whose common interest is seeking ways to support NASA's efforts to keep the Shuttle program moving in a positive and productive direction. 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 event will be a widely attended gathering of approximately 450 persons, which includes approximately 30 NASA employees. Speakers will include senior NASA, contractor, and supplier executives. The event allows NASA employees and aerospace industry representatives to discuss Shuttle program goals and priorities. The cost, which includes breakfast and lunch, is \$60.50 per person. I find that this event meets 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 may participate in the Network activities on February 24, 2004.

for 
Paul G. Pastorek