

September 2, 2004

LS01(LRM)

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: LS01/Chief Counsel

SUBJECT: Blanket Approval to Attend a Reception Sponsored by the German Consul General of the State of Bavaria and the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce

In accordance with 5 CFR 2635.204(g)(2) and (3) and 14 CFR 1207.103 (c)(4), and pursuant to a memorandum of delegation to the Chief Counsel dated January 11, 2000, I make the following determination.

It is in the best interest of the Government to permit NASA employees who receive invitations to attend a reception sponsored by the German Consul General Hans-Joerg Brunner, the State of Bavaria, and the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center on September 14, 2004, and to do so in their official capacity as NASA representatives.

The reception will mark the 100th Anniversary of the German Consulate General, Atlanta, and will celebrate the life and work of Dr. Werner von Braun. In addition to an exhibition of German/U.S. Southeast cultural and business ties that have developed over the past century, authentic German food, wine, and beer will be served.

This event will be a widely attended gathering of approximately 300 representatives from the Chamber of Commerce, Federal agencies, and local elected officials. Special guests include the descendants of Dr. von Braun and widows of those who worked closely with Dr. von Braun during his early years with NASA. The cost of the reception is estimated to be \$45.00 per person.

Based on NASA's interest in honoring the memory of Dr. von Braun and his significant contributions to the nation's space program, I conclude that NASA's interest in its employees attending this event outweighs any concern that free attendance may, or may not, appear to improperly influence any NASA employee in the performance of official duties.

Accordingly, NASA invitees, accompanied by a spouse or guest, may attend this event.

original signed by:

William A. Hicks

cc:

HQ/Mr. Falcon

MSFC/Ms. Kilpatrick