

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



Reply to Attn of:

July 12, 2004

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Blanket Determination Regarding Attendance at the NASA Turning Goals Into Reality Awards Program and Reception, July 14, 2004

The Aeronautics Enterprise and the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) will host the annual NASA Turning Goals Into Reality Awards Program and Reception on July 14, 2004, at the Steven Udvar-Hazy Center, companion facility to the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum, located at the Washington Dulles International Airport. I have determined it to be in the best interests 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 widely attended by individuals from other Federal agencies, members of Congress and their staffers, the military, and academia who share an interest in aviation and aeronautics. The estimated cost of the event, which includes all food and beverages, is approximately \$45 per person. Three hundred people are expected to attend the event. I find that this event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR § 2635.204(g). The awards program will recognize and highlight the accomplishments of individuals who have made contributions through NASA-sponsored research to the aerospace industry at large. In light of NASA's significant interest in aeronautics, its continued collaboration with the U.S. aerospace industry, and the opportunity this event provides to interface with others who share these interests, 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". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

R. Andrew Falcon