

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
John H. Glenn Research Center
Lewis Field
Cleveland, OH 44135-3191



March 17, 2004

Reply to Attn of: G(0120)

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: 0120/Chief Counsel
SUBJECT: Blanket Determination Regarding Attendance at the Greater Cleveland Partnership sponsored NSSC Proposal Conference

The Ohio Aerospace Institute (OAI) will host a luncheon on March 17, 2004 for all officials who will attend the Glenn Research Center National Shared Services Center, (NSSC), Proposal Conference. The luncheon sponsored by Greater Cleveland Partnership, will offer attendees information about the NSSC including its economic impact for the Cleveland region. Attendees will also be able to meet Ohio Senators and Congress members and Federal Government, and industry leaders to network and develop future partnerships. (The Greater Cleveland Partnership is a new organization resulting from a merger of the Greater Cleveland Growth Association, Cleveland Tomorrow and the Greater Cleveland Roundtable.)

The luncheon will be held from 11:45 –12:45 p.m. at the Ohio Aerospace Institute, 22800 Cedar Point Rd., Cleveland, Ohio. Greater Cleveland Partnership invited several NASA employees to attend the event. I have determined it 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 luncheon will be a widely attended gathering of more than 100 individuals who are Ohio Senators and Congress members, local business leaders, local government officials and officials who work in the Federal Government. NASA invitees will have the opportunity to meet with key public officials and business leaders who make decisions that affect the development and advancement of the state and region. The estimated cost of the luncheon, which includes all food and beverages, is \$15.00 per person. I find that this event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R § 2635.204 (g). In light of NASA's involvement in research programs and support of the state and local community, 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 Glenn Research Center employees and their spouses who are invited may participate in the luncheon without charge.

J. William Sikora
Deputy DAEO