

NRSC: Says Mandela Barnes hired Dem 'dark money' lawyer while campaigning against money in politics

Posted on Thursday, Feb 24, 2022

>> **WisPolitics is now on the State Affairs network. Get custom keyword notifications, bill tracking and all WisPolitics content. [Get the app or access via desktop.](#)**

Washington, D.C. - Senate candidate Mandela Barnes vowed to “stand up to the corrupting influence of dark money.” But, like many Democrats, it’s all just empty promises.

As reported by [Washington Free Beacon](#):

[Barnes who] recently released a list of campaign pledges to combat secretive political spending, disclosed in his latest filing with the Federal Election Commission that he hired the Elias Law Group. The firm, which was founded last year by Democratic lawyer and former Hillary Clinton aide Marc Elias, has established itself as a leading defender and beneficiary of the left’s massive dark money network.

Through a channel of opaquely funded groups, Elias has launched lawsuits around the country that push for changes to election rules, which would benefit the Democratic Party, while he represents Arabella Advisors, one of the primary vehicles for secretive political spending on the left. Barnes paid Elias’s firm \$27,000 on Dec. 31, according to the FEC records.

Hypocrisy at its finest.

Statement from NRSC Spokeswoman Lizzie Litzow: “Mandela Barnes is all talk when it comes to campaign promises. If Wisconsinites can’t even take him at his word on the campaign trail, how would they be expected to trust him to represent

them in Washington? It's simple: they can't, and they won't have to."