

U.S. Sen. Johnson: Calls on FEC to provide a full explanation about potential misconduct related to political donations

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WASHINGTON – On Monday, U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson (R-Wis.), ranking member of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, sent a letter to the Federal Election Commission (FEC) regarding a video posted online by the O’Keefe Media Group on March 28, 2023 alleging that political donations are being made in large amounts to certain political groups without the donors’ knowledge.

The claims in the video were apparently based on public FEC data that displays donor information, including the amount of money individuals have donated to certain political groups.

On March 29, 2023, Senator Johnson’s staff emailed the FEC’s legislative affairs office to request a briefing regarding FEC’s awareness of the information presented in the video and to discuss what, if any, action the FEC has taken, is taking, or will take to address the allegations raised in the video.

The FEC initially offered to brief the senator’s staff about the video, however, after staff confirmed a date and time for the briefing, the FEC informed the senator’s office that it was no longer willing to provide the requested briefing. The FEC initially told staff that it would provide a letter the following day explaining why it will not provide a briefing, but it did not do so until several days later on April 17, 2023, hours after Senator Johnson wrote to the FEC. The FEC’s letter stated without much detail that it could not provide the requested briefing due to confidentiality limitations relating to potential enforcement activities. The FEC did not confirm or

deny it was looking into the allegations raised in the online video.

“I am disappointed that the FEC is refusing to provide transparency about its awareness of potential misconduct regarding political donations,” **Senator Johnson wrote**. “It is important for the FEC to be forthcoming with Congress and the public in order to maintain confidence in the FEC’s abilities to address potential wrongdoing. With this in mind, I request the FEC provide a full explanation related to the allegations contained in the March 28, 2023 video.”

Read more about the letter [in the Daily Caller](#).

The full text of the letter can be found [here](#) and below.