

Official Request Filed for Federal Investigation into Governor Walker's WEDC

Written by Wisconsin Assembly, Laura Smith

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Criminal violations may have taken place at Gov. Scott Walker's Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC). Request follows the Wisconsin State Journal investigation that WEDC may have granted a \$500,000 loan to one of the governor's campaign contributors.

MADISON – Democrats here sent an official request to federal authorities this morning asking them to launch an investigation into whether criminal violations may have taken place at Gov. Scott Walker's Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC).

Their request follows the *Wisconsin State Journal* investigation that indicates WEDC may have granted at least one loan – totaling \$500,000 – as a favor to one of the governor's campaign contributors.

Assembly Democratic Leader Peter Barca (D-Kenosha) and Sen. Julie Lassa (D-Stevens Point), the Democratic representatives on the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) Board of Directors, sent the request by letter to U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch and U.S. Attorneys John Vaudreuil and James Santelle.



“Like many taxpayers across Wisconsin, I am outraged by these explosive media reports, but as a board member I feel a responsibility to ensure we find out how this improper loan was granted and that this is not the tip of the iceberg, while also finding solutions following the recent scathing audit of Gov. Walker's WEDC,” Rep. Barca said. “Given all the turmoil and potential federal laws being broken at WEDC, a thorough federal investigation is the best way to determine whether the governor and some of his closest aides engaged in pay-to-play activities or committed other serious ethical violations.”

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