Law Forward Applauds Judge’s Decision to Hold Fraudulent Electors Accountable in State Court

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For Immediate Release
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Madison - On Friday, 2/10/2023, Judge James D. Peterson of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin granted the Plaintiffs’ motion to remand, ensuring that Penebaker et al v. Hitt et al. - commonly known as the “fraudulent electors case” - will proceed in Dane County Circuit Court.

Law Forward’s staff counsel Scott Thompson said “This is an important step in holding these twelve individuals, including the 10 people who falsely and illegally claimed to be presidential electors for the State of Wisconsin, accountable. They violated state law, which is why we’re glad that the Judge agreed this case should proceed in state court.”

Thompson continued “Those who sought to overturn the will of the people by attempting to override Wisconsin’s certified election results in 2020 need to be held accountable. Today, we are one step closer to justice.”

This lawsuit is the first of its kind in the nation and seeks a judicial declaration that the defendants acted unlawfully when they falsely assumed the office of presidential electors for the State of Wisconsin, an injunction to prevent them from serving as electors again, and asks the court to impose statutory fines and monetary damages.

Serving as co-counsel with Law Forward on this case are Georgetown University Law Center’s Institute for Constitutional Advocacy and Protection, which uses strategic legal advocacy to defend constitutional rights while working to restore confidence in the integrity of our governmental institutions, and Stafford Rosenbaum LLP, one of Wisconsin’s leading private law firms.

Law Forward is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that does impact litigation to protect and advance democracy in Wisconsin.

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