



Monday, February 7, 2022

To President Biden & Members of Congress -

For nearly one hundred years the workers of UAW Local 578 have been building the highest quality vehicles in the country in Wisconsin. These men and women are the backbone of the Oshkosh Corporation, and of the entire Fox Cities community.

Six months ago, those workers – along with people across Wisconsin – rejoiced at the news that Oshkosh Defense had been awarded a \$6 billion dollar contract to build the new United States Postal Service vehicles. They had every reason to expect, given their long and exceptional record of high-quality work, these trucks would be built locally, in Oshkosh, by highly skilled union workers.

Those hopes were shattered by Oshkosh Defense's recent decision to build these trucks with non-union labor in Spartanburg, South Carolina. This decision runs counter to everything we stand for as lifelong supporters of organized labor.

**I urge you to do everything in your power to reverse this decision.**

This contract would create nearly 1,000 good paying union jobs and be an incredible boost to a state and region that are still recovering from the effects of the pandemic, and whose workers have all too often gotten the short end of the stick due to outsourcing and offshoring.

This would be a tremendous opportunity to invest locally in highly skilled union jobs, boost our economy, and once again show the people of Wisconsin exactly what Building Back Better is all about.

I've spent my entire career standing shoulder to shoulder with members of organized labor. The union movement runs deep in my blood. My dad was a UAW worker for 30 years, and I can tell you without question that if we want these trucks built and built right, we must make sure they are built by UAW workers in Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes  
Candidate for United States Senate