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Team Clinton: Sanders 'rigging the system' with quest for superdelegates

By Jonathan Easley



Getty Images

Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign on Tuesday accused **Bernie Sanders** of "rigging the system" by seeking to pick-off the superdelegates that have already pledged their support to Clinton.

"Really, I think when you talk about rigging the system, that's what Sen. Sanders is trying to do now," Clinton spokesman Brian Fallon said on CNN's 'New Day.' "Hillary Clinton has won in the popular vote by a wide margin. She's got more than 2 million votes over Sen. Sanders in all of the contests when you add them all up."

Sanders has been on a hot streak, winning seven of the last eight contests.

But the Democratic Party's proportional allocation of delegates has made it difficult for him to cut into the big lead in pledged delegates Clinton built up early through landslide victories, particularly in the South.

Clinton currently has about 1,287 pledged delegates against 1,037 for Sanders.

But among superdelegates — party leaders that are not bound to the popular vote in their states — Clinton racked up a massive early lead and counts 469 supporters compared to only 31 for Sanders.

The Sanders campaign is seeking to block Clinton from obtaining the 2,383 delegates needed to win the nomination, forcing a contested convention.

To do that, they're trying to swing some of Clinton's super-delegates — particularly those in states that Sanders won — over to their side.

The Clinton campaign is accusing Sanders of trying to thwart the will of the people.

"She's won more states, she's won more pledged delegates," Fallon said. "So now that's forcing Sen. Sanders to go out and talk about the idea that he wants to try to flip superdelegates and get him to overturn the will of the people as expressed through who's won the most contests."

TAGS: Hillary Clinton, Bernie Sanders