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Russian Ex-Presidential Hopeful Nadezhdin Declares Bankruptcy

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Boris Nadezhdin. **VK**

Former presidential hopeful Boris Nadezhdin was forced to declare bankruptcy following a court order related to past campaign debt, the business newspaper Kommersant reported Thursday.

Nadezhdin, 61, sought to challenge President Vladimir Putin in the March 2024 presidential race on an anti-war platform but was barred from running. Though unsuccessful, his short-lived campaign drew support from Russians opposed to the invasion of Ukraine despite a wartime crackdown on dissent.

In May 2024, Rosenergobank — which itself went bankrupt in 2017 — petitioned a Moscow arbitration court to declare Nadezhdin bankrupt. The politician resigned as a municipal deputy in the Moscow region the following month.

The court ruled that Nadezhdin owed Rosenergobank 77.4 million rubles ($920,500), including interest and penalties, Kommersant reported. His assets have reportedly been

seized, except for a personal vehicle.

Nadezhdin told the newspaper that his bank accounts were blocked and that he expected spending limits to be imposed.

According to Kommersant, Rosenergobank's former owner loaned Nadezhdin $200,000 in 2011 to finance his now-defunct party in that year's legislative elections. The party, Right Cause, placed last out of seven parties.

Russia's state-run Deposit Insurance Agency took over the loan after Rosenergobank's collapse and in May 2024 petitioned the Moscow arbitration court to seek 112 million rubles from Nadezhdin, Kommersant reported.

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