

## Bail granted to man charged in B.C. for allegedly raising funds for terrorists. (2008, March 18). *CBC news.*

### Bail granted to man charged in B.C. for allegedly raising funds for terrorists

*Last Updated: Tuesday, March 18, 2008 | 7:41 PM ET [Comments4](#)[Recommend11](#)*  
[CBC News](#)

The Toronto-area man who is the first person in Canada to be charged with helping finance terrorists was granted bail in a British Columbia court Tuesday.

Prapaharan Thambithurai, 45, was released on \$25,000 bail. After leaving Vancouver Provincial Court, he was picked up by his wife, who was driving a black Cadillac Escalade.

Thambithurai is accused of asking people in Metro Vancouver for donations to the Tamil Tigers, a group seeking an independent homeland in Sri Lanka.

Formally known as the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Elam, the Tigers were declared a terrorist group by the Canadian government two years ago, which makes it illegal to raise money for them.

The RCMP's Integrated National Security Enforcement Team arrested Thambithurai in New Westminster last Friday.

It is alleged that Thambithurai committed an offence under Section 83.03(b) of the Criminal



Prapaharan Thambithurai, the first man in Canada to be charged with terrorist financing, was granted bail Tuesday by a Vancouver court. (CBC)

Code of Canada, the section that makes it an offence to provide, or make available property or services for terrorist purposes.

Michel Juneau-Katsuya, a former agent for the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) who is now a security consultant with Ottawa-based Northgate Group, said before the group was outlawed, it managed to raise an average of \$10 million from Canada's relatively small Tamil community.

Juneau-Katsuya said the group did it by terrorizing members of the Tamil community by threatening repercussions for family back in Sri Lanka if money wasn't given.

Thambithurai spoke briefly to reporters outside the court before getting into the waiting Cadillac.

When asked whether he thought he had done anything wrong, he replied with a terse "No."

*With files from the Canadian Press*

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**leo123 wrote:** Posted 2008/03/18

at 11:11 PM ET anybody who commits this crime should get life no parole

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**leo123 wrote:** Posted 2008/03/18

at 10:02 PM ET canada was slow to say it like it is anybody who commits this crime should spent life in prison

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**Thamilan wrote:** Posted 2008/03/18

at 9:52 PM ET When asked whether he thought he had done anything wrong, he replied with a terse "No."....

This tells all. For Tamils LTTE is a liberation organization. US, Canada & EU are misguided by sensored news and directed propaganda of the Sri Lankan government.

GOSL gets all kind of military support from US, China, Iran etc. LTTE, the Tamil Liberation Army gets support only from Tamils.

Tamils will continue to collect and continue to give to LTTE unless the western governments bring freedom and dignified peace to Tamils.

This Tamils will continue to do regardless of jeopardy to thei own well being. Foremsot is the wellfare of the families back home.

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**iknudsen wrote:** Posted 2008/03/18

at 7:00 PM ET There are really two ways to respond to this.

1) Aren't there "N" and "L" drivers out there to bust down?

or

2) If only Sri Lanka bought our oil... like, say, the US... hell, then we'd just go fight the war with them.

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Prapaharan Thambithurai, right, prepares to get into a waiting Cadillac SUV in Vancouver after being released on bail. (CBC)