



AFL great Mark 'Bomber' Thompson granted bail

Bombers legend Mark Thompson's drug trafficking charges don't make sense

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LONGTIME friends of disgraced footy icon Mark "Bomber" Thompson have been left scratching their chin over the former player and coach's recent drug charges.

Thompson will next face court later this month charged with drug trafficking, after illicit substances were allegedly found in a locked room of his Melbourne home.

The 54-year-old — who played in three premierships with Essendon and coached Geelong to two flags, was granted bail in the Melbourne Magistrates Court on Tuesday after being charged with seven drug-related offences — including trafficking and possession.

But a longtime friend of the AFL legend says there's something puzzling about his recent fall from grace.

Veteran player agent Peter Jess said Thompson's case "just didn't make sense".



📷 Mark "Bomber" Thompson was a father figure to the AFL.

"Knowing him in a real way, and knowing his financial circumstances, this is a guy who could afford to buy the scale company rather than use it," Jess told *The Age*.

"This concept of him trafficking drugs doesn't make any commercial sense to me.

"I'm not sure why we're dealing with the rats and mice. He's not on that level. He's on a different level.

"It just doesn't make any sense to me."

The court was told quantities of methamphetamine, ecstasy, LSD and MDMA were found in plastic bags during a January raid on Thompson's Port Melbourne home. It

was alleged some of the drugs were found in a small room protected by a keypad and only Thompson had access to it.

Senior Constable Naomi Bourke told the court ice pipes, resealable bags, weight scales and hard drives were also found at the property.

A police summary alleged Thompson's DNA was found on a bag with MDMA in it and on other bags containing drugs.

Const. Bourke opposed Thompson's bail application, saying he was a flight risk because he had access to a yacht and money.

But the AFL great was bailed on strict conditions, including a requirement he report to police three times a week.

He also agreed to pay a \$20,000 surety and notify authorities if he needed to travel interstate for football commitments.

Thompson is due to return to court on May 25.

— with AAP

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