



Hermantown Police Department  
5111 Maple Grove Road, Hermantown, MN 55811  
218.729.1200 // [cops@hermantownmn.com](mailto:cops@hermantownmn.com)

# AROUND TOWN

During the week of 01/03/21 to 01/09/21, the Hermantown PD had 138 calls.  
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

## Chief

Jim Crace

## Commanders

Mark Gunderson  
Jon Esterbrooks

## Sergeants

William Marsolek  
Griffin Pfeiffer - K9

## Detective

Lisa Volk

## Officers

Jason Salo  
Tim Battaglia  
Jon Pernu - K9  
Jon Enright  
Jake Williams  
Erika Johnson - SRO  
Jeff Dwyer  
Quinn Mischke  
Olivia Gottschald  
Jonathan Stracek

## K-9 Officers

Tuuko  
Jack

## Records

Jessica Sorensen  
Dana Ross  
Samantha Knapp

### Disturbance

On 1/08/2021 at 08:47 a.m., Hermantown Police were dispatched to a suspicious vehicle called in by a homeowner. Officers arrived on scene and found the vehicle with a man in the driver seat. Upon seeing the uniformed officers and marked squads, the suspect began to drive in an aggressive manner to get away, striking a parked vehicle, a squad car, and nearly striking two Hermantown Police officers on foot. The vehicle fled toward Proctor pursued by two HPD squads. A Proctor Officer monitoring the radio set up a stop stick tire deflation device that flattened one tire on the fleeing vehicle. The suspect turned off and ultimately ended up behind the Proctor High School, where he fled on foot and was apprehended by HPD. The 30-year-old male driver had warrants from multiple jurisdictions for felony domestic assault, felony burglary, and false name to a police officer. He was lodged at jail on his warrants and for Felony Fleeing in a Motor Vehicle, Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle, 2nd Degree Assault, Felony 5th Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance, along with multiple traffic and drug paraphernalia violations.

### Driving Under the Influence

On 01/09/21, just after 2 a.m., Officer Enright observed a Subaru Outback turn from Stebner Road to eastbound Morris Thomas without stopping and slowing down just enough to make the turn. Upon making contact with the 19-year-old male driver, Officer Enright noted a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage emitting from the vehicle. The driver denied drinking and said the odor was coming from his passenger. He stated he had been driving people home and again said he had not been drinking. The man performed field sobriety testing; he had a difficult time following directions. He performed a preliminary breath test with a result of .11% blood alcohol content. He later admitted to drinking 4-5 Corona beers, beginning at 10:30 or 11 p.m. He said he stopped drinking approximately one hour prior to the traffic stop. During an inventory search of the vehicle prior to it being towed from the scene, Sgt. Marsolek located a small amount of marijuana and a smoking pipe. The driver denied that they were his. After processing at the Hermantown Police Department, the man was released to a family member. He was cited for 4<sup>th</sup> degree DWI, .08 or more, underage consumption, possession of a small amount of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, and failure to stop at a stop sign. After processing at the Hermantown Police Department, the man was released to a family member. He was cited for 4<sup>th</sup> degree DWI, .08 or more, underage consumption, possession of a small amount of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, and failure to stop at a stop sign.



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### Traffic:

On the morning of 01/09/21, officers were advised of a driving complaint called in by a motorist who stated that an Acura with a dealer plate was slamming on the brakes at green lights and driving erratically. The caller stated that the vehicle had entered the Walmart lot and officers located it there occupied. No temporary registration was displayed, but instead a yellow temporary paper driver license was taped to the rear window. A man exited Walmart and left the parking lot in the vehicle. Officer Dwyer then performed a traffic stop on the vehicle. The 38-year-old driver admitted to not having a valid license and was unable to provide proof of insurance. Reports have been forwarded to the prosecuting attorney's office for charges of driving after cancellation-inimical to public safety, and no proof of insurance. He was advised to display the temp registration for the vehicle.

Just after 10:30 p.m. on 01/09/21, Officer Johnson was on patrol on Morris Thomas Road when she observed a vehicle travelling westbound at 25 mph in a 40 mph zone. After crossing the Morris Thomas / Lavaque Road intersection, the speed increases, but the vehicle continued to drive at 25 mph and brake occasionally. Officer Johnson initiated a traffic stop and as she made contact with the teenage driver, she could smell the strong odor of marijuana in the vehicle. The driver admitted to smoking around 5 that night. The teenager was cited for possess of marijuana and drug paraphernalia. A parent was contacted by Officer Johnson.

### Theft

On 01/05/21, a Miller Trunk Highway business reported the theft of catalytic converters from two vehicles. The reporting party believes this occurred between 01/02/21 and 01/05/21. The estimated damage and replacements costs is \$4000.

At approximately 1:15 p.m. on 01/07/21, Fleet Farm reported a male that was opening packages and concealing the merchandise on his person. Officers Salo and Mischke responded to the store and observed the male concealing items, including knives. Officers identified the 28-year-old suspect and searched him for stolen items. The items located included sights, knives, lights and stickers, along with miscellaneous other merchandise. The value of the items taken was \$428.92. The man admitted to using a sawzall blade from the store to open packaging. The man was cited for theft and trespassed from Fleet Farm properties.