



Hermantown Police Department
5111 Maple Grove Road, Hermantown, MN 55811
218.729.1200 // cops@hermantownmn.com

AROUND TOWN

During the week of 01/17/21 to 01/23/21, the Hermantown PD had 154 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

Assault:

Shortly before 2 a.m. on 01/18/21, a 33-year-old woman called 911 to report that her boyfriend had been assaulted by a former coworker. The 42-year-old victim advised that as they were walking into the Kwik Trip, a man they knew was walking out. He said that he asked the man how he was doing and the man started swinging at him, punching him in the face and causing his glasses to fall off. The pair stated that the man then got an impact drill from his trunk and broke a back window of their vehicle. A knife and black pouch containing drug paraphernalia were located on the ground outside of the gas station. A St. Louis County Deputy located the 36-year-old suspect and conducted a traffic stop on the man's vehicle. The male told Officer Gottschald that the other man spit in his face and he pushed the man but did not punch him. He further claimed that he was afraid the other man would harm him, so he got the impact drill for self-defense. He said he had no intentions of harming the older man and had accidentally busted out the vehicle's window. While speaking to the suspect, Officer Gottschald noted that he had a necklace with a knife holster on it that was empty. Reports are being forwarded to the prosecuting attorney's office for charges of damage to property and assault.

Just after midnight on 01/19/21, officers responded to a Timber Ridge townhome after a 41-year-old woman reported that she had been assaulted. She stated that and her boyfriend had broken up approximately one month prior, but she allowed him come over on the evening of 01/18/21 and they had gotten into an argument. She said that she attempted to lock herself into her bedroom, but he broke the door down and assaulted her. She stated that when she told him to leave or she would call the police, he threw her phone down the stairs, breaking it. The 40-year-old stated that only defended himself and claimed that the woman broke the bedroom door. The man was lodged at the St. Louis County Jail for domestic assault, interfere with 911 call, and damage to property.

Disturbance

On 01/18/21 at 8:50 a.m., officers were advised of a disturbance at Walmart. Sgt. Marsolek located a 56-year-old man in his vehicle in the parking lot with a possibly broken arm. He stated he was checking out when he saw two males without masks and he took photos and had words with them. He said he followed them to their truck and took a photo of their license plate before going back to his vehicle. He stated one of the males stood behind his vehicle, so he got out and walked up to him when a pushing match ensued. He stated the second male joined in and he fell to the ground, injuring his arm. He said he believed that they left after the fall revealed a holstered pistol on his side. He said he never drew or touched it and did not tell them he had one. Officer Enright located the other man involved in the incident. Both 22-year-olds stated that the older man came up to them in the check outs and started taking pictures and "running his mouth" because they weren't wearing masks. They said the man followed them outside and took a picture of their car, so one of the men went and took a picture of the older man's car while standing behind it. The second man stated that when he ran over and pushed the older man to the ground, he wasn't trying to hurt him



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but was just trying to get the man off his friend. The young men stated that they then saw that the older man had a gun so they took off running and left in their vehicle. All parties' statements, witness statements, and surveillance video were consistent.

Accidents:

At 10 p.m. on 01/23/21, officers were advised of a vehicle in its side in the 3500 block of Lavaque Road. There was no driver located at the scene, so officers checked the registered owner's address. The 29-year-old man stated he slid on the bad roads and that he got a ride home from a passerby. The vehicle was towed.



Theft

Just after noon on 01/17/21, Officer Mischke took the report of a vehicle prowler that occurred at Hom Furniture. The 27-year-old victim reported that a window had been smashed out and a recently purchased Louis Vuitton purse valued at \$1540 had been taken. She stated that she had recently purchased the vehicle, a 2020 Buick Enclave, as well. Officer Mischke watched surveillance video and observed a vehicle park next to the Enclave. The male driver went into the store for a brief period of time before going back to his vehicle. The man then backed his vehicle up at an angle and appeared to have broken out the window to take the purse.

On 01/18/21, a Lightning Drive business reported the theft of a trailer containing a generator and welder. The value of the trailer and equipment was estimated to be \$9,000. The reporting party advised Officer Dwyer that had surveillance footage of the incident, which occurred the previous night.

At noon on 01/18/21, Pure Pleasure reported a shoplifting incident. Officer Stracek spoke with the 42-year-old suspect, who admitted to intending to shoplift two items. The man was cited for theft. He was transported to the St. Louis County Jail for two active warrants, one of which was for felony shoplifting in Isanti County. Jail staff informed Officer Stracek that the man claimed to swallow ½ gram of heroin before officers arrived on scene at Pure Pleasure. The man was transported to a local hospital for medical clearance before being lodged at the jail.