



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

# AROUND TOWN

During the week of 01/31/21 to 02/06/21, the Hermantown PD had 144 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 02/02/21 at 12:22 a.m., a 68-year-old man reported that his sister, a Hermantown resident, has been harassing him for approximately one year. The man stated that it stems from their mother's estate. He stated that his 61-year-old sister sent him 15-20 emails that night. Officer Pernu advised him on harassment orders, but he stated he needs to wait until the estate issues are taken care of, as he still needs to contact the woman about it. He requested that Officer Pernu speak to the woman and ask her to stop contacting him. Officer Pernu called the woman, who was intoxicated. She stated she would be going to bed. At 8:56 a.m., a second brother reported that the woman was harassing him by calling and texting at all hours of the day and night. Officer Dwyer attempted to speak to the woman, but she refused to answer questions and only brought up past incidents. She was advised to stop the harassing phone calls.

On the morning of 02/04/21, a 61-year-old man staying at a Miller Trunk Highway motel reported that he had gotten into an argument with a neighbor and the other man pulled a knife on him. When officers arrived on scene, he told them he was walking home when he saw his neighbor following him. When the two got to the motel, a confrontation took place outside after the neighbor called the reporting party a name. The man stated that his neighbor went inside and grabbed a knife before coming back out. He stated he felt threatened and thought the other man was going to hurt him, so he went inside his room. Officers made contact with the 42-year-old neighbor, who said it was a "little dispute" and denied having a knife. He told officers he can't have weapons because he is on probation. Officers executed a search warrant on his room and located a knife matching the description that the victim provided. The man was lodged at the St. Louis County Jail for 2<sup>nd</sup> degree assault.

### Traffic:

On 02/03/21, just after 10 p.m., Officer Stracek was on patrol when he observed a vehicle with a headlight out. As he performed a traffic stop on the vehicle, he noted that a license plate light was out, as well. As he made contact with the 25-year-old female driver, Officer Stracek immediately detected a strong odor of marijuana emitting from the vehicle. The woman admitted that she did not have a valid driver's license. She said that the vehicle is currently insured, but was unable to provide proof. The woman admitted that she smokes marijuana in the vehicle. Officer Stracek confiscated 2.6 grams of marijuana located in the vehicle. The woman was cited for possessing a small amount of marijuana, driving after revocation, and no proof of insurance.

### Order Violations:

On 01/31/21, a 40-year-old Hermantown resident reported that the respondent of a Harassment Order she filed is on a social networking site that she is on. She stated that the site is NextDoor, which is an app where you can communicate with others in the city you live. The woman stated that her daughter posted on the app four days ago. One day later, the 40-year-old man posted on the



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same page. The man did not directly contact or reply to the woman or her daughter. Officer Stracek advised the woman that it did not appear to be a violation of the Harassment Order. On 02/02/21, the woman reported that the man shipped a package to her at her address. Sgt. Marsolek responded to the woman's address and opened the box. There was no written communication included in the box; it contained property belonging to the woman. Sgt. Marsolek consulted the prosecuting attorney and it was determined that there were no grounds for a criminal charge.

### Theft

On the afternoon of 01/31/21, Kwik Trip reported a theft in which a female had concealed hamburgers and other items into a Tidy Cats bucket. Officer Gottschald located the female in the garden center at Menards and observed the bucket with the stolen merchandise. The 35-year-old woman immediately admitted that she stole food from Kwik Trip and threw a milkshake at one of the employees. The stolen merchandise totaled \$48.15. The woman was cited for theft and trespassed. She had previously been trespassed from Menards in West Duluth; she was cited for trespassing.

On 02/01/21, a 67-year-old Chisholm man reported a situation involving the purchase of a vehicle. He said he brought his 34-year-old stepson to Hermantown to purchase a Bravada. After giving the seller's mother \$150, they received the keys to the vehicle and were told that it was at a different location on Morris Thomas. As they began to shovel the vehicle out, a man approached them and told them that he owned the vehicle and to leave his property. Officers Dwyer and Enright spoke with the property owner, who was able to provide a title for the Bravada. He told them that it was not currently in running condition and that he had noticed in December that the key for the truck had been stolen, along with keys for several other vehicles on the property. Officers determined that the 32-year-old suspect coordinated the sale of the vehicle from jail. Reports have been sent to the prosecuting attorney for charges of conspiracy to commit motor vehicle theft. The vehicle key was returned to the owner and the man attempting to purchase the vehicle received his money back.

On 02/02/21, the owners of a Hermantown storage unit complex reported a burglary that occurred overnight. Shortly after 2 a.m., surveillance video captured a Dodge Caravan enter the yard through a gate and leave approximately 15 minutes later. Two work trailers had been entered and numerous tools were taken.

On 02/05/21, Econo Lodge staff reported the theft of a set of master keys. After being unable to find the keys, the reporting party had reviewed surveillance footage and observed a male take the keys from the counter the previous night. The male had been at the motel with a female that had rented a room. The phone number the woman provided to staff wasn't real.