



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

# AROUND TOWN

During the week of 04/04/21 to 04/10/21, the Hermantown PD had 226 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

### Traffic:

On the afternoon of 04/09/21, a Hermantown bus driver reported a stop arm violation. He stated he was dropping a student off in the 5400 block of Morris Thomas Road with his stop arm out and lights on when a gray Dodge Journey drove past the bus without making any attempt to stop. The bus driver stated the vehicle was about 15 car lengths from the bus when the stop arm was out and he kept the child on the bus until the vehicle passed. Officer Gottschald will attempt to make contact with the 24-year-old registered owner of the vehicle.

During the week of 04/04/21 to 04/10/21, Hermantown officers performed 122 traffic stops. 49 of these were done as part of Toward Zero Death special traffic enforcement shifts. Drivers were cited for a total of 44 offenses and warned for 101 offenses.

### Accidents:

On the afternoon of 04/06/21, Officer Stracek responded to the Adolph Store after receiving the report of an accident involving a propane truck. The 33-year-old female of a GMC Envoy stated she was leaving the pump when she was hit by the propane truck. The truck driver stated he was reversing when the woman left the pump and tried to go around him; he said his flashers were on and the truck had the reverse beeping. While identifying the occupants in the Envoy, a teenage passenger was confirmed to be a missing person out of Cloquet. Officer Stracek transported the teenager and her infant to the area of Midway Road and I-35, where Cloquet PD took over.

### Driving Under the Influence

Just before 2:30 a. m. on 04/07/21, officers received the report of a vehicle in the ditch in the 4700 block of Hermantown Road. Officers arrived on scene and located four men walking around the car. The 41-year-old registered owner admitted to having a few beers in Superior before driving here to drop friends off. He said when he backed out of the driveway, he fell off the side and got stuck in the ditch. He failed sobriety testing and his preliminary breath test resulted in a reading of .135% blood alcohol content. Charges of 3<sup>rd</sup> degree test refusal and 4<sup>th</sup> degree DWI are pending.

At approximately 11:15 p.m. on 04/10/21, Officer Mischke performed a traffic stop on a vehicle that was travelling 75 mph on Miller Trunk Highway. Officer Mischke observed an open beer bottle in the center console and smelled an alcoholic beverage coming from the male driver. Chief Crace, who was working a Toward Zero Death special traffic enforcement shift, proceeded to the scene to investigate the possible DWI. The 39-year-old driver failed field sobriety testing and provided a preliminary breath test sample of .21% blood alcohol content. After processing at the Hermantown Police Department, the man was lodged at the St. Louis County Jail. Charges are pending for 2<sup>nd</sup> degree DWI, .08 or more, and speed.



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## Warrant Arrest:

On the evening of 04/04/21, officers responded to Walmart for a public assist call for a woman who said she was blind and had been left at Walmart by her friends. They located a 31-year-old woman, who was crying and saying she just wanted to go home. She explained that she came to the store with two other females and did not know where they were. She said she had been there for hours and was unsure if her ride left her. At this time, another female approached and began talking to the woman. Both females stated that they had come to Walmart together. The first woman no longer requested officer assistance and the pair went into the store to find their ride. Officer Pernu ran a routine name check and discovered that the second female had an outstanding warrant from Polk County, Wisconsin, for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and carrying a concealed weapon. Officers advised the woman, who had returned to the parking lot, about the warrant and told her she was being detained until it was confirmed if Polk County would extradite her. The 30-year-old female then stated she needed to go find her mom and began walking away. She was escorted back and began yelling that this was causing her PTSD. Her yelling drew attention from people who began videotaping. When dispatch confirmed that Polk County wanted the woman taken into custody, she was handcuffed and escorted to a squad car. At this point, the woman became "dead weight" and cried, stating she was claustrophobic. Officers gave her several minutes to calm down and allowed her to smoke before placing her in the rear of the squad and transporting her to the St. Louis County Jail.

## Miscellaneous:

At approximately 11 a.m. on 04/10/21, Officer Gottschald responded to Menards at their request. A family on scene was not wearing masks and the manager requested that the two adults be trespassed. Officer Gottschald advised the 34-year-old woman and 41-year-old man from Grand Rapids that they were trespassed for one year.

## Theft

On the evening of 04/06/21, Officer Stracek was dispatched to Walmart for the theft of a wallet. The 20-year-old victim stated that she arrived at Walmart at 4 p.m. and went to the bathroom, where she hung her wallet on the wall. She then went shopping in the store and realized she left her wallet in the bathroom when she went to check out at 5:20 p.m. She spoke to a janitor, who stated that he saw the wallet still hanging on the wall when he was cleaning, but a woman needed to use the restroom so he had to leave and was unable to grab the wallet. Officer Stracek is attempting to get video of the area around the bathroom's entrance. The victim stated her Coach wallet contained her driver's license, social security card, and numerous other credit and debit cards.

On 04/10/21, Northern Tool & Equipment reported that a welding cage had been broken into. An employee advised Officer Mischke that 34 tanks had been stolen for a total loss of \$5,816.30.