



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

# AROUND TOWN

During the week of 07/11/21 to 07/17/21, the Hermantown PD had 197 calls.  
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

## Chief

Jim Crace

## Commanders

Mark Gunderson  
Jon Esterbrooks

## Sergeants

Griffin Pfeiffer - K9  
Jon Pernu - K9

## Detective

Jake Williams  
Jeff Dwyer

## Officers

Jason Salo  
Lisa Volk  
Tim Battaglia  
Jon Enright  
Erika Johnson - SRO  
Quinn Mischke  
Olivia Gottschald  
Jonathan Stracek  
Andrew Leibel

## K-9 Officers

Tuuko  
Jack

## Records

Jessica Sorensen  
Dana Ross  
Samantha Knapp

### Suspicious Activity:

On 07/12/21 at midnight, Officer Enright was on patrol when he observed two vehicle with their lights on in the parking lot of a Miller Trunk Highway business. He made contact with a 40-year-old female in one of the vehicles and she was initially reluctant to identify herself. As Officer Enright spoke to the woman, a male from the other vehicle walked over. He explained that they were on their home from the lake and were dropping off a boat to be detailed. The 44-year-old man entered the building by putting a code into the man door. He refused to identify himself for several minutes, stating he wasn't doing anything wrong and he didn't feel he needed to. He eventually provided his name and Officer Enright learned he had a felony no bail warrant from Itasca County and a misdemeanor warrant from St Louis County. He was lodged at the SLC Jail for the warrants. The woman had a small baby with her and her driving status was cancelled, so she called for a ride from a valid driver.

### Driving Under the Influence

On 07/13/21 at 12:41 a.m., Officer Enright was dispatched to a gas station after a caller reported a male flailing his arms around and getting into a vehicle. The caller stated the male was possibly intoxicated. Officer Enright arrived on scene and located a male matching the caller's description standing outside a Ford Escape. The man was speaking in a hurried, frantic manner and was pacing and fidgety. He was also grabbing and pulling at his shirt, could not stay still, and was sweating heavily. When asked what he had using that day, the man said he smoked marijuana last night and had two drinks at 11 a.m. the previous day. He stated he used to use acid and meth, but said the last time he used meth was two years prior. He said he wasn't driving except to move the vehicle from the pumps to where it was currently and he said he walked to the gas station because his girlfriend worked there. After a short time, the man was transported to the Hermantown Police Department, where he submitted to a drug recognition evaluation. He admitted to smoking meth at 4 p.m. the previous day. A glass smoking pipe with white residue was located in the man's pocket. Charges are pending results of a blood analysis.

On 07/15/21 at noon, officers were advised of a possibly intoxicated driver that hit a pole in the Outback parking lot. The driver left the scene and Officer Johnson located her in the turn lane of Miller Trunk Highway attempting to get onto Loberg Avenue. Officer Johnson noted that the vehicle began to drive forward, then stopped before continuing. At this point, the vehicle was smoking from overheating. The driver pulled into the Walmart lot and parked perpendicular to the building in the fire lane. Officer Johnson made contact with the 34-year-old driver and her 8-year-old child, who was a passenger. The woman displayed clear signs of intoxication and a preliminary breath test showed that her blood alcohol content was .325%. Officers determined that the woman, her mother, and her three children went to shop at Walmart earlier in the day; the woman and one of her children decided to sit in the car. The woman then decided to drive to McDonald's to pick up food for her family, despite being told by her mother that she was not to start the vehicle, as it overheats. Instead of driving to McDonald's, the woman drove to Outback, where she admitted to having a vodka beverage before leaving. She denied striking the pole in the Outback parking lot, despite a witness and video showing the accident. The woman was unable to complete a successful breath test at the Hermantown Police Department and voluntarily submitted to a blood test. Charges are pending the results of the test.



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At approximately 12:30 a.m. on 07/16/21, Officer Stracek observed a vehicle traveling 59 mph in a 40 mph zone on Lavaque Road. After performing a traffic stop on the vehicle, he detected the strong odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from the vehicle. The 48-year-old male driver said he was headed home; however, he was driving away from his home address. The man performed field sobriety testing, including a preliminary breath test that resulted in a reading of .182% blood alcohol content. Charges have been requested for 3<sup>rd</sup> degree DWI, .08 or more, speed, and no proof of insurance. A opened bag of green apple cannabis infused gummies that were located in the man's pocket were confiscated and placed into the HPD property room.

### Drug Incident

At approximately 9 p.m. on 07/13/21, Officer Stracek was advised that an off-duty officer observed a large amount of marijuana in plain sight on the seat of a Honda Pilot parked in the Walmart lot. Officer Stracek arrived on scene and observed a large mason jar around the size of a milk jug filled over halfway with suspected marijuana. An additional bag containing suspected marijuana was also seen in the vehicle. When a man later approached the vehicle, Officer Stracek made contact with him and transported him to the Hermantown Police Department to be interviewed. The 32-year-old man said he stole the marijuana from an old acquaintance that he found passed out downtown. The man said he had to get a few things at Walmart and when he arrived, he took the marijuana out of his backpack in order to get his wallet out and he left it in plain view when he went into the store. The man estimated the value of the marijuana to be around \$1200 and stated it was a higher quality product, but he denied selling marijuana. He was lodged at the St. Louis County Jail for felony possession. The total weight of the marijuana was 383.4 grams.

### Miscellaneous

On the afternoon of 07/14/21, officers were advised by a probation agent that a 38-year-old man was at his Hermantown residence in violation of a Domestic Assault No Contact Order that had been issued after a recent domestic violence incident. Officers arrived on scene and the man's girlfriend said that he left after speaking to the probation officer. Officers checked the house to verify that the male was not there; however, he was located in a bedroom. The man said that his girlfriend told him that she had spoken to someone in the attorney's office to drop the order. He was advised that the order was active and he was transported to the St. Louis County Jail for the violation.

### Theft

On 07/13/21, Officer Volk took the report of a Uhaul theft. A 37-year-old woman had rented the 15 foot truck on 06/08/21 and it was to be returned on 06/11/21. An employee stated that the stolen truck had been seen in Duluth on 07/04/21. The value of the truck is approximately \$45,000.

On the evening of 07/14/21, Fleet Farm reported that a man had concealed a knife and walked out of the store. The man got into a vehicle in the parking lot; however, the vehicle had a flat tire and could not leave. The suspect then entered the store and started shopping. Officer Gottschald made contact with the 22-year-old man, who admitted that the knife he concealed was in his vehicle. The man was cited and trespassed.