



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

# AROUND TOWN

During the week of 08/01/21 to 08/07/21, the Hermantown PD had 178 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

### Disturbance

On 08/05/21 at approximately 8:20 p.m., officers were advised that Walmart customer reported that a male was assaulting a female in the parking lot outside of a car and that there were two children present. The caller stated the man left in a vehicle southbound on Loberg Avenue. Chief Crace was nearby when the call was dispatched and he located the suspect vehicle near Maple Grove Road and Haines Road. Officers Gottschald and Battaglia responded to Walmart and spoke to the reporting party and the victim. The reporting party stated the male and female were attempting to fit a bike into the trunk of a vehicle, but it wasn't fitting and an argument took place. She said the male was very aggressive and punched the female at least 2-3 times. The 27-year-old victim said that the man had punched her in the throat. She told Officer Battaglia that she and the 28-year-old suspect share a child and they went to Walmart that evening to purchase a bike for the child as a birthday present. The woman said that she and the man are not currently "together" and she doesn't know where he lives. She said that she was pushing him away and that she screamed for someone to call the police because she wasn't sure if he was going to continue to try to hit her. The man was taken into custody and during a search of the vehicle, approximately 106.7 grams of marijuana were located in the trunk, as well as an unopened package of THC edibles and a THC vape cartridge. The man stated that he had no items in the vehicle; however, near the marijuana was a casino payout slip with the man's information. He was lodged at the St. Louis County Jail for felony domestic assault, 5<sup>th</sup> degree possession, and driving after cancellation – inimical to public safety.

### Miscellaneous

On 08/02/21, Hermantown officers had four separate contacts with a homeless man having mental health issues. During the first contact at 3:19 a.m., officers responded to a local hotel after the man reported that a woman was handcuffing a man for intergalactic business. He later stated the woman had a dead body in her Jeep. He further stated that the woman was in the pool area with two children, even though it was the middle of the night. It was determined that the man was not a danger to himself or others and he declined assistance. Later in the morning, shortly before 10:30 a.m., the man called 911 to report that someone was dealing body parts from a different area motel. During the call, he was swearing profusely at the dispatcher. Officers did not locate the man at that time. It is unknown what prompted the call other than that he tried to get a room at the motel the previous night and there were none available. At 3:50 p.m., staff at an auto dealership reported that they wanted the man removed from the property, as he was swearing at everyone and was very confrontational. The man told officers at that time that the salesmen were hitting him in the head and took his credit card information, which officers did not believe to be true. At 4:30 p.m., a local gas station reported that he was on the property disturbing, despite him previously being trespassed. At that time, the man told officers that someone smeared cat poop on him. The man was cited for trespassing in this incident. Each officer that spoke to the man offered assistance and the man refused. He did not appear to be a danger to himself or others, despite his abstract thinking.



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### Accidents

At approximately 2:30 p.m. on 08/02/21, Officer Leibel responded to a two-vehicle accident on Haines Road near the intersection of Maple Grove Road. A 31-year-old female driving a Ford Escape was attempting to exit the Kwik Trip parking lot on Haines Road. Her vehicle ended up in a position where she was blocking multiple lanes of traffic and could not navigate into the left turn lane, so she attempted to continue straight onto the frontage road for Burning Tree Plaza. She was unable to see northbound traffic and pulled out directly in front of a Hyundai Tucson, causing the front bumper of the Tucson to strike the passenger side of the Escape. The Tucson had disabling damage. The woman was cited for failing to yield.



### Theft

On 08/01/21, shortly after 5 p.m., Officers Gottschald and Johnson were advised of two females that were ticket switching at Walmart. Both women admitted to swapping tickets on items and pointed out which items they switched tickets on. The value for the items that the 51-year-old switched tickets on was \$110.37. The 20-year-old's selections were valued at \$184.72. Both women were cited for theft.

On 08/07/21, Officer Gottschald took the report of the theft of a catalytic converter off a vehicle in the Disable American Veterans parking lot. The reporting party stated that the vehicle had last been used on 08/03/21. The estimated cost to replace the part is \$1600.