



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

# AROUND TOWN

During the week of 01/23/22 to 01/29/22, the Hermantown PD had 147 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

Just before 6 p.m. on 01/23/22, Officer Leibel and Sgt. Pernu responded to the report of a disturbance at the Edgetown Motel. The reporting party, a 59-year-old man, said that his 51-year-old neighbor punched him because another neighbor had heated up soup for the reporting party. He stated that the neighbor had also threatened to break the windows on his apartment. Another neighbor, a 57-year-old man, had witnessed the incident and stated that he had also been chest-bumped by the younger neighbor. Officers observed that the 51-year-old man was intoxicated and contacted his probation officer, who requested that the man submit to a preliminary breath test. The result of the test was .19% blood alcohol content. Officers noted that the reporting party also had an odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from him.

On the evening of 01/27/22, officers responded to a Hermantown residence after being advised of a domestic situation. A couple in their 70s reported that their 47-year-old son began screaming at them, calling them vulgar names, and accusing them of things they didn't do. The man showed officers videos he took of his son threatening to beat him and kill him. The videos also show the man smashing a metal shoe horn on the counter while yelling. The suspect refused to speak with officers about the incident. He was lodged at the St. Louis County Jail for domestic assault.

### Miscellaneous

At approximately 5 p.m. on 01/24/22, a gas station employee reported that a male at the store was just released from jail and was trying to get to a place eight minutes away. The caller stated that the man was cold, as he only had a light weight jacket and no gloves or other winter gear. Officer Gottschald called the gas station and requested to speak to the man. After he identified himself, Officer Gottschald advised him that due to his previous behavior and threats made on Friday when he was arrested, she would not be giving him a ride. He stated he understood and that his family was going to pick him up and bring him home. At 9:19 p.m. on the same date, management of a local group home reported that the man was at the residence and they wanted him removed from the property and trespassed. Officers located the man in the garage with a resident of the home. His ride from out of town showed up shortly after officers and the man left.

On 01/25/22 at 8:30 p.m., a Hermantown Road resident reported that he located an abandoned Kia SUV on a plowed power line right of way on his property. After he provided a plate number of the vehicle, dispatch advised Sgt. Pernu that the vehicle had been reported stolen from Duluth earlier in the day. The resident told Sgt. Pernu that the vehicle had not been there at 9 a.m. but that someone else had seen the vehicle there at 1:30 p.m. Sgt. Pernu noted that the SUV's stereo system had been removed and that there was a set of small tracks similar to that of a suitcase leading away from the vehicle. He contacted the registered owner of the SUV, who arrived a short time later. He said that in addition to the stereo, some reusable shopping bags and a small trolley-type cart were missing.



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

# AROUND TOWN

## 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

### Accidents

On 01/26/22 at 7:30 a.m., Officer Enright responded to Miller Trunk Hwy and Lindahl Road after receiving the report of an accident. A 38-year-old woman in a Trailblazer exited a parking lot to turn south onto Lindahl Road. A 33-year-old woman driving a Suburban was turning off Miller Trunk Highway onto northbound Lindahl Road and the vehicles collided at slow speeds. Officer Enright advised both parties that generally speaking, the Suburban had the right of way, but due to a massive snowbank making it impossible for the Trailblazer driver to see the other vehicle, he was not going to issue any citations for this incident.

### Theft

On the afternoon of 01/23/22, Walmart reported a male that concealed items and put on a sweatshirt that was for sale. When Detective Dwyer arrived on scene, loss prevention staff told him that the suspect had left the store and was in the parking lot. He left behind all the items except for the sweatshirt he was wearing. Detective Dwyer located the man, who said he didn't have any ID with him, but verbally provided his name and date of birth. Detective Dwyer was unable to find record of the man in State systems. He transported the man to the jail to verify his identity and when they pulled into the parking lot, the man told Detective Dwyer his real name. The 28-year-old man had active warrants and he was lodged for those. He was cited for shoplifting, providing a false name to a police officer, and possession of a hypodermic needle.

At 6:30 p.m. on 01/25/22, Officer Leibel responded to Walmart for a female shoplifter. He identified the 35-year-old woman, who refused to deal with any part of the incident until her father arrived to retrieve her child, who was with her. After her child left, the woman told Officer Leibel that she had forgotten her shopping list, so she had been perusing the store for items she needed. She entered the self-check area with a full cart; she found another cart and scanning items and placing them into the empty cart. She said she wanted to make three transactions for different payment types. She then realized she was missing her card and believed it was in her car. She did not pay for the remaining items and walked past the last point of sale before being apprehended by loss prevention. Some of the items she failed to pay for included a large box of cat litter, a large box of puppy pads, and box of canned dog food that would be fairly difficult to accidentally overlook. The woman was cited for theft.

On 01/25/22, Sgt. Pernu was advised that two males had concealed handgun magazines and were in a vehicle in the parking lot. Sgt. Pernu and assisting officers made contact with the men, who both denied stealing anything. Once he was escorted inside the store, the 18-year-old man handed over a 15-round Glock magazine that he concealed down his pants. Loss prevention advised that the other man, a 22-year-old, had concealed a 33-round magazine in his pants. This was recovered in the car. Both parties were trespassed and issued citations for theft.