



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

AROUND TOWN

During the week of 07/30/23 to 08/05/23, the Hermantown PD had 193 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
Tim Battaglia
Jon Enright
Erika Johnson - SRO
Olivia Gottschald
Jonathan Stracek
Andrew Leibel
Alex Prouse

K-9 Officers

Tuuko
Jack

Records

Dana Ross
Samantha Knapp

Suspicious Activity

On August 5, 2023 at 21:45 hours, Dispatch received a call from a passerby at Walmart who claimed to see four young males get out of a vehicle and it appeared they were trying to break in to another vehicle in the parking lot. The caller stated they overheard one of the kids joking around about walking home or breaking into the vehicle. The caller stated that one of the males was on the hood of the car. Officers arrived to find the males had locked the keys in their car. Parents showed up while officers were talking with the group and gave the kids a spare key. Appears caller misunderstood the teens statement.

On August 1, 2023 at 1006 hours, 911 dispatch received a call from a passerby stating that in the back north corner of the parking lot near Camping World they were a loud boom and saw a large barrel shoot past the tree line and then fall back down. The caller couldn't see anything on fire at the time of the call. Officers were directed more to the area of Kolar on Arrowhead. Officers made contact with Kolar employees who said they blew up a 5-gallon bucket filled with air bags which they are required to do before sending them back to the factory. Kolar employees said they do this all the time and don't know why today's incident got so much attention.

Gas Drive Off

On August 2, 2023 at 1831 hours, Officers were dispatched to a gas drive off call at the Holiday Gas Station in Hermantown. Officers were alerted that a male driver had pumped gas and had not paid for it. The store also noted it wasn't the first time this vehicle has done this. The total of the theft was for \$14.01. After dispatch ran the plate information, it was discovered that this vehicle had been involved in several previous gas thefts.

While officers were enroute to the caller, another officer on duty had located the suspect vehicle in the Walmart parking lot. After a short while, the suspect went up to the vehicle which was parked in a handicapped parking spot. Officers approached the male who immediately admitted to stealing the items he was currently holding. Officers then asked the male about the gas drive off as well which he admitted to. He also asked him if he had a handicap parking placard and he said no.

The man was found to have two active warrants for being involved in two recent thefts. The man was ultimately jailed for his warrants, and he was issued a citation for Misdemeanor theft of gas and parking in a handicapped parking spot.



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Warrant

On August 5, 2023 at 2106 hours, Officer Prouse was on routine patrol in the area of Midway and Ugstad Road when he observed a vehicle traveling WB ahead of him with an inoperable brake light. After running a routine query of the plate, he observed that it was registered to a party with an active misdemeanor warrant for domestic assault. The officer conducted a traffic stop at Midway and Hermantown Rd. The registered party, a 58-year-old male, was driving the vehicle, and his female passenger was identified. It was further found that there was an active DANCO between the two parties. The male was taken into custody and lodged on his warrant and DANCO violation.

Suspicious Activity

On July 31, 2023 at 1707 hours, officers were notified by a caller stating they could see a male party walking behind their building on camera surveillance near the 5700 block of Hwy 2. Officers located the 20-year-old male who was walking in a dirt parking lot with road rash and blood on his arms, body and hands. The male said that he had jumped from a moving car while verbally fighting with a female who is pregnant with his child. He also stated he was drinking and in "a bad place".

Officers learned that the male hit his head so EMS was requested. The man refused transport and was instead released to a friend. Property was checked and nothing found suspicious.

On August 4, 2023, dispatch was advised that a caller was reporting to hearing loud banging at the front hour around 11:54pm near the 4400 block of Sugar Maple. The caller said it was just 3-4 bangs but it was so loud that it woke them up. Officers visited the area and did not locate anyone nearby. The neighbor across the street appeared to turn on the street light and lock a vehicle, but no one was seen outside. It was suspected by the caller that neighborhood children may have been playing "Ding Dong Ditch". After this initial call, officers noted that more people later reported the same incident.

Vehicle Prowl

On August 2nd, 2023 at approximately 0643 hours, Officers were dispatched to a vehicle prowl incident that occurred at the Country Inn and Suites located at 4255 Haines Road. The reporting party stated that his work truck had been broken into overnight by cutting the lock and that there were many tools missing.

Officers arrived on scene and met with the 46-year-old male victim in the lot who was standing next to his truck and enclosed trailer. The man stated that he went to leave the hotel this morning and found the lock to the trailer had been cut and many tools were missing. The man stated that the suspect had also entered the rear cargo area of the truck and rolled the tonneau cover partially back to steal items out of the box of the truck as well. The total loss of theft appeared to exceed \$7,700.



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