

AROUND TOWN



Chief
Jim Crace

Commanders
Mark Gunderson
Jon Esterbrooks

Sergeants
Griffin Pfeiffer - K9
Jon Pernu - K9

Detective Bureau
Jeff Dwyer
Jake Williams

Officers
Jason Salo
Tim Battaglia
Jon Enright
Erika Johnson - SRO
Olivia Gottschald
Jonathan Stracek
Andrew Leibel
Alex Prouse

Clerical
Dana Ross
Samantha Knapp
Ashley Johnson

K-9
Tuuko
Jack



During the week of 08/20/23 to 08/26/23, the Hermantown PD had 186 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

Vehicle Fire

On August 22, 2023 at 1530 hours, officers were dispatched to a call at the 5100 block of Lavaque Junction for a fire that was in a garage. It was reported that there was a lot of farm equipment in the garage and that the homeowner had smoke but no open flame, and that they had used a fire extinguisher. Hermantown Fire reported that the fire was out. Officers spoke to the homeowner who stated that a small fire had started in a lawn tractor that he was working on. He was able to get the fire out completely with a fire extinguisher before officers and fire arrived.

On August 21, 2023 at 1419 hours, officers were notified of a vehicle near the 5100 block of W Arrowhead Road that appeared to have flames coming out of the back end of the vehicle. The caller was trying to get the driver to get out of the vehicle and it appeared that gas was leaking on the ground. The vehicle driver, a 21-year-old male, told officers who arrived on scene that his engine blew up while he was driving his vehicle. Some flames did come out of the back, but there wasn't an active fire upon arrival. Officers had the car pushed off of the road and noted it was no longer leaking fluids. The driver said that they had a friend coming with a trailer to pick up the vehicle.

Graffiti

On August 21, 2023 at 1608 hours, officers were notified that there was some vandalism reported near the baseball fields on Ugstad Road. The caller stated that within the past few days it appeared that someone had spray painted the dugout area near the concession stand at the baseball field. The caller stated that they didn't have any suspects at the time of the call. Officers explained to the caller that they would be doing extra patrol in this area.

Personal Injury Accident

On August 22, 2023 at 1156 hours, officers were dispatched to a report of a two-vehicle accident with injuries at the intersection of Menard Dr and W. Arrowhead Rd. Dispatchers advised a truck had driven through a red light and "t-boned" another vehicle within the intersection. Officers arrived on scene and observed Vehicle 1 with heavy damage to the driver's side area and the airbags deployed. A 27-year-old male, driver of Vehicle 2, was standing near the vehicle and said he was not injured, but the other vehicle driver was still in the vehicle. Officers then spoke with the driver, a 65-year-old woman, who stated that she was shaken up and her chest was hurting. She also said she could not exit her vehicle as the door would not open.

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Officers were able to force open the damaged driver's side door and assist the woman in exiting.

A witness on scene said he was waiting at the lights when he observed Vehicle 1 driving through the intersection. The witness said Vehicle 1 had the green light to turn, but Vehicle 2 drove through the red light and struck Vehicle 1. Officers then spoke with the male who stated he was driving westbound on Arrowhead Road, and he was not sure if the lights were green or red at the intersection, but Vehicle 1 came out and he was unable to brake in time.

Officers spoke with the woman, who stated she had the green light to turn through the intersection and Vehicle 2 had ran a red light before striking her vehicle. The man was ultimately issued a citation for failure to stop for a traffic control signal. The woman was transported to the hospital to be evaluated further.

Traffic Stop

On August 20, 2023 at 2154 hours, Hermantown officers were conducting routine patrol in the area of Miller Trunk Highway and Loberg Avenue. Officers were stopped on Loberg Avenue at a red light behind one vehicle. The traffic light turned green and the vehicle in front of squads began moving to enter the intersection. Officers stated a vehicle southbound on Hwy 53 that ran the red light. The vehicle in front of squads had to brake in order avoid being hit by the vehicle that ran the red light.

Officers conducted a stop on the vehicle. The 18-year-old female driver said she was door dashing and had looked down at her phone momentarily and she claimed that was the reason for running the red light. She also estimated that she was traveling at 45-50 mph when she ran the light. The woman was cited for Failure to Stop for Traffic Control Device.

Theft

On 8/26/23 at 0958 hours, officers were dispatched to a theft call at the Chalet Lounge, 4833 Miller Trunk Hwy in Hermantown. The reporting party, a 59 year old woman, stated to dispatch that two wheel covers were stolen off of her vehicle yesterday between 0900-1630 hours. Officers made contact with the victim by phone who told officers that two center caps, front and rear passenger side tires, from her vehicle were stolen.

The woman stated that she let her daughter borrow her vehicle on Thursday, 8/24/23, and that her daughter had the vehicle parked at the Chalet from 0900-1630 hours that day. She also stated that the suspect(s) replaced the rear passenger side center cap with a center cap from another vehicle.

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The woman said that she just noticed that the center caps were missing yesterday afternoon, but believes that the center caps were stolen while her daughter had the vehicle parked at the Chalet the prior day.

The woman stated it was estimated that the cost to replace both center caps is approximately \$90.

