

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 08/27/23 to 09/02/23, the Hermantown PD had 208 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

Suspicious Activity

On August 30, 2023, officers were notified that a couple was in the Hermantown Police Department lobby and needed to report something suspicious they found in their mailbox. Officers came out to speak with the couple who said that they live near the 5500 block of Hermantown Road. The woman on scene stated that when she went to retrieve her mail on this day, she found a Ziploc baggie inside with what appeared to be a \$100 bill. After studying the bill, officers were able to verify that it was clearly counterfeit.

On August 29, 2023 at 0704 hours, officers were alerted of a call of a possible burglary in progress near the 5000th block of White Pine Street. The caller explained that they had just gotten home and heard what he believed to be a voice inside the home. They believed it was a male voice. The caller stated they believed no one should be at the house at this time. Squads arrived and searched the home for any activity. No one was found and nothing appeared to be out of the norm. The caller stated they weren't sure if they were hearing things or if someone was there.

Vehicle in the Ditch

On August 27, 2023 at 0107 hours, officers were notified of a vehicle that was in the ditch near the Miller Trunk Hwy and Hwy 194 intersection. The vehicle was said to have damage and may need a tow. Officers responded to the scene at met with a 20-year-old woman. The woman stated she was driving home after attending a concert that evening and stated she fell asleep and missed the corner where Hwy 194 turns to meet Miller Trunk Hwy. The woman said that she went through the ditch and ended up on Miller Trunk Hwy. Officers observed damage to the woman's vehicle including front end grill/bumper damage, rear end damage, multiple airbags deployed, rear axle issues and other various damage throughout the vehicle. There were no indicators of alcohol being a factor. The vehicle was towed and the driver was given a ride home.

Traffic Accident

On August 28, 2023 at 1018 hours, dispatched advised officers of a call concerning vehicle damage at the Kwik Trip near Menards with a possible hit and run noted. Officers called back the reporting party, a 17-year-old male, who stated he was pulling into one of the parking spots along the front of the Kwik Trip store when a male in the driver seat of the vehicle parked next to him opened his driver's door, striking the juvenile's mirror as he was still moving forward. The male stated he had a conversation with the driver and gave him his name and insurance, but didn't ask for anything in return from the male and didn't get his license plate. The reporting party stated the suspect driver told him the vehicle was a rental and he didn't have insurance. Officers told the party that this really isn't considered a hit and run as he had a conversation with the other driver and just didn't get the

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



information he should have gotten at the time of the incident. He was advised this is a civil matter moving forward since the incident occurred on private property.

Person with a Gun

On August 30, 2023, officers were dispatched to a person with a gun call in the Walmart parking lot. It was reported by employees that the male flashed a firearm when in the store, in the parking lot and had accrued multiple complaints. Witnesses stated that the male had the gun pointed up towards the roof of his car and then pointed it a vehicle parked nearby. It was also mentioned that someone heard a "POP, POP, POP," like a cap gun. Dispatch alerted officers that the vehicle was on the move towards the Fleet Farm in Hermantown. Officers performed a felony stop on the suspect vehicle on Maple Grove Road where the suspect was identified as an 18-year-old male. The party had three CO2 cannisters in one of his pockets, and a black BB gun was sitting in plain view in the back seat. Detectives located more CO2 cartridges and BB pellets inside the vehicle.

Officers spoke to the man who claimed that he purchased the BB gun the previous day and went to Walmart today to buy BBs for it. He claimed that he may have lifted the gun up while he was trying to load it which could've caused concern, but he stated multiple times it wasn't his intention to threaten anyone. Officers opened the door to begin the arrest process and the male stuck his right foot out like he was going to get out of the car. Officers advised him to stay in the car and that he was under arrest. The man asked what he was under arrest for and started arguing, swearing and speaking over the officers. He also screamed at officers to loosen his handcuffs as he flailed and kicked at them.

While the officer was attempting to place the man in to the squad vehicle, he started to pucker his lips as if he was going to spit. Officers backed up and told him not to spit. After some struggle, officers were able to secure the man into the vehicle and he then claimed that he was "not trying to cause any trouble".

Detectives went to Fleet Farm and were notified that the gun was actually stolen from Fleet Farm the previous day and it was valued at \$119.99. Ultimately, the man was transported to Saint Louis County Jail and lodged on charges of Felony Threat of Violence, Gross Misdemeanor Carry a BB Gun in Public Place, and Gross Misdemeanor Obstruct with Force. He was also charged with shoplifting on the previous day's theft case report.

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 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

