

# 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 10/15/23 to 10/21/23, the Hermantown PD had 196 calls.  
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

## Person with Gun

On 10/15/2023 at 1018 hours, officers were dispatched to a person with a gun call at the Kwik Trip on Haines Road. Dispatch advised that a white male in a Trump jacket pulled a gun on him while he was standing outside of the store.

While officers were driving to the scene, dispatch advised they overheard the reporting party making threats toward the other male and accusing dispatch and the police of being racist. Dispatch further updated that the reporting party had left the scene and disconnected the phone call.

Officers arrived on scene and found a 51-year-old male standing next to a vehicle at the pumps being jumped by another vehicle. Officers approached the man and asked if he had a firearm. The man said he had a carry permit and said his firearm was in his right waistband. Officers removed the firearm for everyone's safety and put it in the squad car.

The man stated that he was in the process of jumping a vehicle at the pumps when the reporting party, later identified as a 59-year-old man, started talking to him and the conversation turned confrontational. The man stated that he grabbed his right waist where his handgun was and told the man that he had a concealed carry but never pulled his shirt up to brandish the gun, never pulled it out or pointed it at anyone.

Officers reviewed surveillance and attempted to contact the caller. The caller was very difficult to get information from and was largely yelling and screaming at officers, talking over them and did not want to respond to most questions. The caller yelled about the man being a white racist wearing a Trump shirt, said the police were racists and said multiple times for officers not to call him.

The caller admitted that the man never pulled the gun out or pointed it at him but said he did pull his shirt up to show the gun. Officers asked the caller if the man made any threats towards him and the caller said he was done talking and hung up.

Ultimately, officers found there was no probable cause to charge anyone with a crime in this incident.

## Unwanted Person

On October 21, 2023 at 2011 hours, dispatch advised officers of a report a disturbance at the Walmart bus stop. It was reported that there was an intoxicated male arguing with people at the bus stop and trying to give out steaks. When officers arrived, there was nobody around, but did locate a vehicle parked on Loberg in front of the bus stop that had tabs from June of 2020. Officers did a walkthrough of the store where a 59-year-old man flagged them down. The man smelled of alcohol and had his service dog with him. The man would not admit he drove to the bus stop and it was

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unclear how long he had been around Walmart. At one point, the man laid on the sidewalk out front of Walmart demanding officers step on his neck and kept calling officers names.

Eventually after speaking with the man further, it was determined he would not be a risk to himself if he walked away from Walmart with his dog. The man's car was towed due to it being a hazard in its location at Walmart. The vehicle was full of rotting meats, dairy, and produce.

## Gas Drive Off

Officers were dispatched to a gas drive off at the Holiday Station store in Hermantown on October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 0810 hours.

Officers went to speak with a witness, who stated a female pulled up to a gas pump in a 'beat up' vehicle and proceeded to pumping \$48.88 worth of gas. The witness said the sale was acknowledged over the intercom and asked the female to come pay inside when she was done.

They watched as the female got back in the driver seat after pumping and started to leave the parking lot. Employees went running out after the vehicle and tried to get a license plate, but the vehicle peeled out and took off at a high rate of speed.

At this time, there is no suspect information to follow up on.

## Warrant Arrest

A Hermantown officer was on patrol near Maple Grove and Sangstrom Road on October 16, 2023 at 2002 hours. While driving, he witnessed a male wearing all dark clothing walking on the side of the road. The officer stopped and asked the male where he was headed. The 35-year-old man stated he was walking towards Walmart, so the officer asked him if he needed a ride. The male said he did not. While having a casual conversation, the male said his name to the officer.

After driving away from the male, the officer remembered having contact with another man who looked very similar to this one. The officer looked up the individual that he recalled and realized the party he was speaking with was in fact the party he remembered interacting with. He also observed the man had a no bail felony warrant.

The officer again made contact and detained him. After some debate, the man admitted he gave a false name. The man was then arrested for his warrants.

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