

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 10/22/23 to 10/28/23, the Hermantown PD had 170 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

Traffic Accident

Officers were dispatched to a traffic crash at the intersection of Anderson Road and Haines Road on October 26th, 2023 at approximately 1646 hours.

Officers responded to the scene and spoke with the involved driver, a 23-year-old male. The man stated that he was southbound on Haines Road behind a vehicle at the red light. The light turned green and the vehicles started to drive. The man admitted to officers that he was eating chips and looked down at the chips while moving forward and did not realize that a vehicle in front of his was turning.

The other driver, a 30-year-old man, said that they had to slow as the vehicle in front of him was turning and first male driver did not recognize the hazard and did not slow down in time. The 23-year-old's vehicle rear ended his vehicle, causing moderate damage to both vehicles.

The man who was distracted with eating chips was issued a citation for Duty to Drive With Due Care that was explained to him in detail.

Dispatch advised Hermantown officers of a caller claiming that they were in an accident with their semi-truck near Hwy 194 and Midway Road on October 25, 2023 at 0321 hours. The caller stated he was okay but wanted his passenger checked out since he was resting at the time of the accident in the vehicle.

Officers responded and spoke with the 33-year-old male driver. He stated he did not see the roundabout as they approached it due to the weather which was rainy and foggy. The man advised he couldn't move in time and drove over the roundabout, and then eventually into the ditch. The driver was not complaining of any injuries, but his passenger stated he had minor back pain. The officers mentioned there was some damage to the front of the semi, and the trailer suffered some flat tires on the passenger side.

Shoplifting

Officers were dispatched to a shoplifting incident at the Menards Hermantown on October 22, 2023 around 1434 hours. Store employees reported a theft that had occurred on the previous day with an attempt totaling near \$700 worth of merchandise.

Officers arrived and talked with staff who stated that they had recognized a female party in the store that had recently had a trespassing order expire. The employee wanted to let the female party know this and let her know she would be monitored due to her prior shoplifting involvements. The 34-year-old woman stated that was fine and was in the store for a short time before leaving. The

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woman eventually approached the checkout counter and spoke to an employee for a short time before leaving a cart containing \$175 of merchandise.

Employees reviewed camera footage after the party left and found evidence of an attempt to conceal several trail cameras in some totes. It appeared on video that the woman was only able to conceal one camera in a hand bag, which she successfully left the store with. The woman was then seen heading to her car and then re-entering the store again. It was at this time that the store employee had alerted the woman of her trespassing expiration.

A shoplifting citation was mailed to the woman with a notice that she would be trespassed from all Menards stores again.

Traffic Stop

On October 26, 2023 at 1959 hours, a Hermantown officer was on routine patrol in a fully marked squad car in the area of Miller Trunk and West Arrowhead Road when they watched a vehicle cross over the fog line completely while it drove southbound on the highway.

Officers made contact with the driver, a 38-year-old man, and a 46-year old female passenger. The man admitted that he did not have a valid MN driver's license. As the officer returned to the squad car, dispatch alerted them that the passenger was also listed as the vehicles registered owner and that she had two active warrants.

The officer cited the man for Driving after Cancellation and arrested the woman for her warrants.

Theft

Officers were dispatched to a report of a theft at Groome Transportation on October 23, 2023 around 2209 hours. The reporting party said he wanted to report a theft of two wheels and tires from his vehicle.

The 63-year-old man stated he parked his vehicle in the Groome Transportation lot on September 9, 2023 down near the wood lined area. When he arrived back in the area that day, he observed both of the driver's side wheel and tires had been stolen from his vehicle. The victim said whoever stole the wheels and tires left his vehicle sitting on cinder blocks. The tires were valued around \$400.

There are no suspects at this time and the case is ongoing.

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