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
Andrew Leibel
Alex Prouse
Rebecca Towner

Clerical Dana Ross Samantha Knapp Ashley Johnson

> K-9 Tuuko Jack



During the week of 11/26/23 to 12/02/23, the Hermantown PD had 173 calls. The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

DWI

On December 2, 2023 around 1502 hours, officers on patrol near the intersection of Maple Grove Road and Ugstad Road were alerted of a call on a pickup truck driving all over the road.

An officer in the area immediately saw a truck with a similar description approaching him. This truck crossed over the fog line as it was passing the squad. He also noticed that the right rear tail light and brake light were out.

Officers made contact with the 31-year-old male driver who had a slur to his speech and was moving slowly. The driver admitted to coming from a local bar, but the route of travel he described did not match up. When officers asked the man how much he had to drink, the man claimed he didn't know and that he just wanted to go home.

After running the male through standard field sobriety testing which he struggled to complete, the man blew a .304 on the PBT. The male party estimated his number would be this high because he had a bad night.

During the arrest process, the man told officers that he had been at a bar earlier but had been picking up his medicinal marijuana when he was stopped. He also admitted to drinking beer and shots today. Officers further learned the man had two previous DWI convictions within the last 10 years.

Ultimately, the man was lodged for Second-Degree Refusal and Second-Degree DWI, Crossing the Fog Line and No Rear Tail Light.

Vehicle Fire

Officers were alerted of several calls claiming to have seen a truck on fire near the Burger King in Hermantown on November 28, 2023 at 0458 hours. It was reported the truck was fully engulfed in flames.

Officers were able to contact the 18-year-old male owner of the truck who explained that he was sleeping with the truck running and the heater on low when he woke up to a burning smell and the truck engine on fire. A friend was coming to help the owner grab belongings and get the vehicle towed.

Shoplifting

On 12/02/2023 at 2149 hours, Hermantown officers were alerted to Walmart for a report of a cooperative juvenile female shoplifter in the Loss Prevention Office.

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The 17-year-old female did not have a photo ID on her and claimed to have never had a Government ID. She did show officers some miscellaneous cards in her purse that had her name on them.

Walmart employees explained that the female had approached a self-checkout register and did not scan several items despite bagging them and attempting to walk out with both paid and unpaid merchandise.

Officers explained that they wanted to speak with the suspect and said she understood it and would speak with them. During the interview, she admitted to the theft although she claimed to have not come to Walmart tonight with the intention to shoplift, but the cost of the items is what caused her to change her mind. She admitted that she purposely did not scan several items in a hope to save money.

The female was ultimately issued a citation for shoplifting. The total value of the recovered items was \$241.79.

Damage to Property

On December 1, 2023, officers received a call of damage to property at 5700th block of Jamebard Road in Hermantown.

The 53-year-old male told officers that last night someone came onto a family member's property on Jamebard Road and damaged property he had stored there. The suspect opened doors and access panels to the garage, sheds and storage units that are on the property. The suspect also climbed a pole and turned a camera sideways and broke the lights off the pole. The man estimated the damage to the lights was \$30.00.

Theft of Dog

911 received a call on November 28, 2023 explaining that the caller's ex had stolen her dog from her residence. Officers spoke with the 24-year-old woman who stated that her ex-partner came to the house and ended up taking the dog and leaving.

Officers contacted the 28-year-old man by phone who stated that he arrived at the residence. The man said that the caller told him that he could take her dog and that she handed him the dog leash and a frisbee. He also stated that he did not want any problems and would bring the dog back within 10 minutes.

Officers then contacted the caller again and she claimed the male took the leash right out of her vehicle and quickly left the area and that she had video footage of this on her phone.

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Officers responded to the area and waited for a short time before the caller approached officers and stated that the man had already been there and dropped the dog off. She told officers that the man said, "thanks for calling the police....and for being fat and ugly."