

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 12/3/23 to 12/9/23, the Hermantown PD had 216 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

Scam/Fraud

On 12/8/2023 at 1606 hours, Officers received word a party was in the Hermantown lobby needing to report a possible scam.

Officers met with the reporting party who stated earlier in the week he began talking to an account online making a trade involving truck transmissions. The 33-year-old man said he made a deal with the operator of the online account that he would send \$300 and a transmission he currently has to the operator in exchange for the operator sending a different transmission back to him.

Since he sent the money, the account operator has started asking for more money and the party realized this was likely a scam. The man was advised that unfortunately there was little the department could do track down a suspect in this case as the suspect could be operating the online account from anywhere in the world. Nothing further at this time.

A woman had called the department on December 7th, 2023 at 1853 hours to report that her bank sent her an email stating that her account had a balance of -\$6,000. The 57-year-old woman stated she signed into her phone application and it also said -\$6,000. She then signed into the bank website and it initially said -\$6,000, but then the screen flashed and it said +\$15,000, which is still an incorrect amount. The woman noted that there are no transactions on the statement that match the differing account balances. She was advised to change her account password and contact the bank in the morning as it may be a software issue. No further police action necessary at this time.

On December 9, 2023 at 1211 hours, dispatch notified officers of a party who received a letter in the mail from his employer stating that he applied for unemployment which he did not do.

Officers called and spoke with the 26-year-old man, who said he got a letter on Friday stating that someone applied for unemployment in his name. The man said he contacted his employer and the State of Minnesota to advise them of this and it was then that he was advised to make a local police report for documentation. Officers advised the man of resources to check his credit to ensure no one has used his information to open any accounts.

Gas Drive Off

The Speedway gas station called dispatch on December 7, 2023 at 1502 hours to report that a gas drive off had just occurred and it was unsure if it was accidental or not. The total thefted was \$59.

Through investigation, officers were able to contact the suspected vehicle owner. The 71-year-old man stated there was some type of mix up on whether they were paying inside or with a card. The man said he paid for his inside and that his wife tried to use a card for her separate vehicle, but it was in 'pay inside' mode already. The parties said they will send payment and they spoke with the store to set that up. Officers advised the store to let them know if the payment doesn't arrive.

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Damage to Property

On December 3, 2023 at 0109 hours, officers were alerted of a railroad crossing that was clipped by a vehicle near the Saint Louis River Road/Midway Road.

Officers arrived on scene and found broken mirrored glass on the ground suggesting that someone clipped it with their mirror. The crossing arm was moved to the side of the road and placed neatly near the signal tower prior to squad arrival. No evidence to suggest how the damage occurred. No further police action needed at this time.

Traffic Accident

Officers responded to a report of a hit and run property damage crash on December 5, 2023 that occurred at Accurate Auto Repair on Hermantown Road. An employee called and reported that they believed a vehicle was damaged overnight or early this morning.

Officers arrived to find the vehicle parked on the west side of the lot. The employee stated that it appeared someone would have entered into the parking lot and struck the vehicle. The damage was to the driver's door, the window on the driver's door, and it extended to the driver's side rear passenger door.

Officers then contacted the vehicle owner, a 42-year-old woman, and advised her of the damage and at this time there are no suspects.

On 12/7/2023 at 1416 hours, Officers were dispatched to a two-vehicle property damage accident at Walmart in Hermantown.

Officers spoke with the Unit 2 driver, a 59-year-old man. He explained that he was exiting Walmart and was driving directly behind Unit 1, which was driven by a 31-year-old woman. Unit 1 began to drive forward and appeared to be pulling out onto Loberg Avenue. All of a sudden, Unit 1 stopped. As the man was already moving, his vehicle hit the rear of Unit 1 as he could not avoid stopping. No injuries were reported at this time.

Alarms

On December 9, 2023 at 0654 hours, 911 dispatch alerted officers of an alarm going off at the Hermantown High School. Officers were told a teacher was on site and there were no concerns.

Then at 0758 hours, Officers were again alerted of an alarm at the school. It was then that officers were advised that there was a Robotics competition scheduled at the school and that the alarms were triggered accidentally. No further issues were reported.

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