

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
Jon Enright
Erika Johnson - SRO
Olivia Gottschald
Andrew Leibel
Alex Prouse
Rebecca Towner
Devin Kleive
Lucas Hedin

Clerical
Dana Ross
Samantha Knapp
Ashley Johnson

K-9
Tuuko
Jack



During the week of 4/7/24 to 04/13/24, the Hermantown PD had 186 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

Traffic Accident with DUI

On April 14th, 2024 at 1459 hours, officers were dispatched to a traffic crash near the intersection of Miller Trunk Hwy and Stebner Road in which one of the drivers was argumentative. The caller and Driver 1, a 42-year-old-man, stated that the other driver, later identified as a 60-year-old man, had fled after hitting his vehicle. Driver 1 eventually was able to get Driver 2 to stop, but the suspect exited his vehicle and entered the woods with his dog.

As officers were taking a statement from Driver 1, they noticed Driver 2 standing on the edge of the woods ignoring officers. The officers talked to the man who admitted to drinking, and showed several signs of impairment. The man was given standard field sobriety testing and administered a breath test with a result of .18 BAC. The man was then transported to the Hermantown Police Department. In transport, the man was cursing and threatening the officer, and mentioned fighting or throwing punches. He continued to yell and curse at officers while being escorted, refused to walk at times, and tried to sit instead of getting into the squad. The man was transported to jail on charges of 3rd Degree DWI. His dog was taken to a local animal shelter for care.

Officers later noted that several stolen items were located in the man's vehicle, including the jacket he was wearing. A separate case for shoplifting was created, and the man was also cited for shoplifting and trespassed from Menards.

Shoplifting

On April 12th, 2024 at 1351 hours, officers were dispatched to a shoplifter at Walmart. Dispatch advised that a suspect was taking jewelry, damaging packaging and was standing near the self-checkout.

When arriving on scene, store employees were going through a woman's cart which was filled with reusable Walmart bags and seeing what was paid for and what wasn't.

The employee told officers that he watched as the suspect went into the jewelry department and used a pocket knife to cut a ring out of the box it came in and collected it. She soon made her way to the self-checkout where he watched her fail to ring up numerous items in her cart. The employee confronted the 45-year-old woman as she was walking out of the vestibule with the unpaid merchandise still in her cart and escorted her to the loss prevention office. The stolen merchandise totaled \$152.82.

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Officers then attempted to talk to the woman, but she did not wish to speak with them. The woman was placed under arrest at this time. Officers also located a small black pocket knife in one of the woman's pants pockets. Officers located a fixed blade knife in a sheath and a pair of scissors. These two items were placed in the bags with her purchased merchandise.

She was then lodged for felony possession of Burglary Tools and Shoplifting.

Driving While Intoxicated

On April 13th, 2024 at 0107 hours, officers observed a motorcycle traveling east on Hermantown Road at a speed that appeared greater than the posted 40 mph speed limit. The officer locked the motorcycle's speed at 49 mph in a posted 40 mph zone.

Officers conducted a traffic stop and made initial contact with the driver, a 36-year-old man. He shut off his motorcycle and stepped off of it. The man stated multiple times that he was not there to hurt them and he did not have any weapons. While speaking with the man, officers noticed his bloodshot watery eyes and that he was slurring his words. They also could smell the odor of an alcoholic beverage emitting from the man's breath. The man admitted to drinking beer, but did not state how much he consumed.

The officers ran the man through standardized field sobriety testing. After completing the tests, the man refused to take a PBT sample.

At this point, officers transported the man to the Hermantown Police Department to complete the Breath Test Advisory where he agreed to perform a breath test which resulted in a .20.

The man had a previous DWI in 2018 and provided a DMT sample of more than double the limit. Because of this, the man was arrested for 2nd Degree DWI and was transported to the St. Louis County Jail. He was also charged with speeding.

Disturbance

On April 11th, 2024 at 1741 hours, a woman had called into the department to report a disturbance at Green Goods. The woman explained while in the parking lot, she was approached by a man who asked her to make a purchase from Green Goods which she did not do. She stated the male then followed her up Hwy 53. While at Midway and 53, the male spit on her car.

Later, on April 12th, 2024 around 1403 hours, officers received another call of a male asking customers to purchase cannabis from him. Green Goods staff advised a man has been harassing patients attempting to get them to buy product from him in the parking lot. Officers advised the store to call back if the man returns.

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