

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 4/14/24 to 04/20/24, the Hermantown PD had 167 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.**

Fire

On April 17th, 2024 around 1838 hours, a tenant from the 4000th block of Haines Road alerted dispatch of a structural fire. The caller stated that they had smoke coming from their living room and they needed response. No one was evacuating at this time.

Officers and Fire responded and found that the fire was coming from burned food. All additional responders were cancelled and the issue was taken care of.

Drive Off – Theft of Gas

On April 17th, 2024 at 0709 hours, Hermantown squads were dispatched to a gas drive off at the Korner Store in Hermantown. Dispatch advised that the suspect vehicle left on Haines Road heading south. Officers soon learned that they had just dealt with the same vehicle approximately 20 minutes prior at the Holiday Gas Station in Hermantown. During that incident, staff advised dispatch that the vehicle had been sitting at the pumps for approximately 45 minutes and one of the occupants had come in the store making strange comments about trading his phone for gas.

At this previous call, officers arrived and located the vehicle sitting at the pumps. Two parties were in the vehicle and told officers that the vehicle was nearly out of gas and they were trying to figure out a way to get gas because they didn't have any money.

In this current incident, officers went to review video at the Kortner Store. At 0702 hours the same aforementioned vehicle pulls up to the pumps. The unknown male in the passenger seat is seen getting out and pumps \$35.02 worth of gas into the vehicle before getting back into the vehicle. The vehicle is then seen leaving the parking lot and going south on Haines Road. No attempt to pay for the gas was made.

Later in the day, Saint Louis County Deputies were doing follow up on an unrelated call and advised over the radio that they were out with the same vehicle. Officers responded to the scene and spoke to the 43-year-old suspect.

Officers attempted to identify the passenger of the vehicle who pumped the gas, but the man refused to tell officers the name of the person he was with who pumped the gas.

Ultimately, the man was cited for misdemeanor theft of gas from a convenience store.

Shoplifting

On April 17th, 2024 around 1754 hours, Hermantown officers were dispatched to a shoplifting call at Walmart in Hermantown. Store employees reported that they witnessed a woman under-ringing merchandise, and they now had her and a male waiting for officers to respond.

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The 43-year-old female not would not speak to officers. The male party who was with was not involved with the shoplifting, but store employees requested he be trespassed from Walmart due to his verbal threats towards store employees.

Employees explained that while speaking with the female suspect about the under-scanning, the male began telling the employee, "I am going to mop the floor with you."

Both parties were informed they were trespassed for one year, starting that day. Both parties stated they understood. The total amount of stolen items came to \$161.39. The woman was also given a citation for Shoplifting.

Personal Injury Accident vs. Deer

On April 18th, 2024 at 0006 hours, an 18-year-old female was driving northbound near the 5600th block of Miller Trunk Hwy. The female passenger told officers that a deer had run out in front of them. The driver swerved into the median to avoid the deer. In doing so, the vehicle struck a 'one way' sign and then left the ditch ending up on the northbound shoulder. The driver had a laceration on her left hand and was in too much pain for officers to get a statement from.

Officers noted that the vehicle's windshield was taken out by the sign, along with damage to the front-end grill and hood area. The driver was then transported by Mayo due to her injuries. The passenger was reunited with family and did not complain of any injuries.

Shoplifting

On April 18th, 2024 at 1316 hours, officers were dispatched to Menards in Hermantown for the report of a shoplifter. Dispatch advised the reporting party wanted to report an incident that occurred the previous day, 4/17/2024.

Store employees stated that at 0723 hours on 4/17/24, a male suspect selected six air duster canisters off the shelf, put them in a plastic Menards bag and then walked out of the store with them without making any attempt to pay for anything. The total value of the stolen merchandise for this incident is \$5.97.

Later that same day at 1456 hours, the man entered the store again and concealed seven more air duster canisters as well as a bag of candy from the shelf into a plastic Menards bag. The total value for the stolen merchandise from this incident is \$8.65, the total value for both incidents being \$14.62.

After seeing photos of the suspect, the officer believed the male was recently involved in an incident where he was huffing air canisters. In the photo, the shirt the 40-year-old man was wearing at Menards was the same shirt he had during the previous incident. Officers attempted to call the suspect, but got no answer.

A citation for Shoplifting was mailed to the suspect.

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