

# 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 5/5/24 to 05/11/24, the Hermantown PD had 201 calls. The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

## Assault

On May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 around 0925 hours, Hermantown officers responded to a report of an assault near the 4900<sup>th</sup> block of Matthew Blvd in Hermantown. Reporting party, identified as an 18-year-old female, stated that she was assaulted a man who hit her across the face. The man had left the scene.

Officers arrived on scene and spoke to the woman. She explained to officers that the man had “palmed her right in the face.” Officers noted that her face appeared to be red in color. The woman explained that her nose hurt, but she did not think it was broken.

The woman told officers she and the man got in a verbal argument in the living room. The man then punched her in the face with an open hand fist, which caused her glasses to fly off her face. Officers noted that her glasses appeared bent and twisted, one nose piece was bent and out of place. Pictures of the bent glasses were taken on and off her face. When asked how she felt, stated she was worried he was going to do something worse. A witness on scene also admitting to seeing this assault happen.

Officers attempted to call the 48-year-old man and get a statement about what happened. He answered the phone and once officers identified as law enforcement, he immediately hung up the phone.

The man was issued a citation for 5<sup>th</sup> degree assault. A search of the man’s name in police records revealed that he currently has multiple active warrants.

## ATV accident with Injury, CVO

On May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1732 hours, officers were dispatched to an ATV crash near the 5500<sup>th</sup> block of West Arrowhead Road in Hermantown. Dispatch advised that a four-wheeler crashed and a 23-year-old male was laying on the ground unresponsive while a female was walking around with bruises. Dispatch further advised other people were arriving at the crash scene and people were starting to push each other.

Officers arrived on scene and found two four wheelers parked near the end of the driveway and four-wheeler tracks. The male was laying on the ground next to one of the four wheelers and was being tended to by medical personnel. A Hermantown firefighter advised that the female was up the driveway closer to the house.

Officers spoke to the 21-year-old female, who stated she was driving with the man sitting on the back. She said that she took the turn into the driveway way too hard and the four-wheeler rolled. While speaking with the female, officers could smell alcohol coming from her and that her eyes appeared glossy. The woman admitted to drinking tequila about an hour before the

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incident. After running her through standard field sobriety testing, the woman provided a preliminary breath test sample of 0.229. She was ultimately placed under arrest for Felony criminal vehicular operations.

The other four-wheeler involved was being driven by an 18-year-old male. He told officers that he was driving one of the four wheelers with another passenger, a 21-year-old female. He stated he didn't witness the crash as it had already happened by the time he got back to the driveway. He also said all parties were drinking and he felt he was the soberest of the group.

As the man was 18 years old and had previously admitted that he had been drinking and driving one of the four wheelers, officers administered a preliminary breath test on him. The man provided a strong breath sample that resulted in a .028 BAC. The man was charged with underage drinking and driving.

## Shoplifting

On May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1911 hours, officers were dispatched to a report of a shoplifter at Walmart. The reporting party advised 911 dispatchers that a male tried to take items from the store and took off in a vehicle.

Employees explained that the suspect male, while scanning items, purposefully did not scan some items that were in his cart. The suspect male began to leave the store without any attempt to pay for the items in the cart that were not scanned. Employees were able to recover all stolen items except for some toys that were in the cart.

After looking over surveillance footage, officers were able to identify the 66-year-old man.

The man was mailed a citation for shoplifting at his last known address. The total value amount for the stolen items was \$119.70.

## Two-Vehicle Accident with Injuries

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 2103 hours, officers were dispatched to a report of a two-vehicle accident with injuries at the intersection of Morris Thomas Road and Ugstad Road. It was reported two vehicles were involved in a "T-bone" collision.

Officers arrived and found a vehicle in the middle of the intersection with heavy front-end damage. Another vehicle was on the south side of the intersection with heavy driver side damage.

Officers spoke with Driver 1, a 28-year-old man. He explained that he was driving southbound on Ugstad Road approaching the Morris Thomas intersection. He told officers that he believed he hydroplaned and was unable to stop for the stop sign. There were heavy rain conditions at the time. The man complained of stomach pain from hitting the steering wheel and was assisted by medical responders.

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Driver 2, a 22-year-old woman, was unable to provide a clear statement due to being in large amount of pain when officers attempted to speak with her. She was taken away by ambulance due to a broken leg.

Officers issued the man a citation for failure to drive with due care, which was explained to him. He was transported to a hospital by family who arrived on scene.

