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
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 4/28/24 to 05/04/24, the Hermantown PD had 180 calls. The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

Unwanted Person

On April 28th, 2024 around 2040 hours, dispatch advised of a call coming from the staff at Country Inn and Suites in Hermantown in regards to an unwanted guest. It was said that a group of people were swearing at the person working the front desk and that employee called the reporting staff crying. The group also had unauthorized guests playing in the pool with numerous kids and one of them vomited in the pool.

Officers then spoke with front desk staff at the hotel and they advised the renter of one of their rooms was swearing and yelling at staff due to a disagreement over charges on his card. The renter, a 28-year-old male, was charged a party fee due to having too many people in his room. Officers spoke with the man and he said that he had a few people in his room for a birthday party but nothing was out of hand. The man was upset because there was \$800 charged on his card from the hotel. Staff requested that the man and his family leave which they did with no issues. Staff advised they refunded all the money on the man's card as he agreed to leave.

Traffic Stop

On April 30th, 2024 around 2257 hours, officers conducted a traffic stop near the Lundgren Road of a vehicle for expired registration.

The female driver stated the vehicle belonged to her boyfriend, and she did not have any insurance for it. A male passenger caught the officer's attention as he was wearing a blanket and was not wearing his seatbelt. The 30-year-old male told officers that the seatbelt did not work in that car.

The officer ran a query on both the driver and passenger, where they learned the man had a total of eight warrants out of St. Louis County. Four of the warrants were felonies for violating supervised release of drug possession and burglary cases, two were gross misdemeanors for violating probation/supervised release of drug possession and receiving stolen property cases, and two were misdemeanors for theft.

Officers went to the passenger side and advised the man of his warrants, explained that he was under arrest, and asked him to step out of the vehicle. The man was initially uncooperative, and cursed at officers. During the arrest process, the man tensed his arm and pulled it away from officers, and bit an officer's hand during the arrest. He continued resisting arrest, putting his arms under his body making it difficult for officers to cuff him. Another agency also responded at this time to help with detaining the man.

Due to the injury the officer received during the arrest, the man was additionally lodged with 4^{th} Degree Assault and Gross Misdemeanor Obstruction in addition to his seatbelt violation and warrants.

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Order Violation

On May 2nd 2024 at 1256 hours, officers were dispatched to a check welfare at Stokke's Meat Market. Officers were told that there was an adult being aggressive with a party in a vehicle outside. The reporting party stated that they saw a male yelling at someone in the car for approximately ten minutes straight and they were worried and wanted to make sure everything was okay.

Officers arrived and found the vehicle near the pumps. Two people were in the vehicle; a female was sitting in the driver's seat and a male in the passenger seat. The female told officers that they were arguing about money to pay for gas.

Officers then separated the two and spoke with the 37-year-old woman. She stated she got in a verbal argument with the man about money and how they were going to be able to pay for gas. Officers learned that the man was arrested a few weeks ago for a domestic related incident between them. The woman said at the time, there was a Domestic Abuse No Contact Order put in place between her and the man, but she thought it was dropped by the court. Officers soon learned that the DANCO was still active between the two parties.

Officers then spoke with the 54-year-old man. He stated they got in a verbal argument about paying for gas, and that the woman left him at the gas station because they were arguing and later came back and picked him up. Officers advised the man that there was an active DANCO between him and the woman from the domestic incident that happened a few weeks ago. He was placed under arrest for violating the order.

When explaining the arrest to the woman, she was frustrated because she thought the DANCO was dropped by the court. She told the officers that she was not going to talk to them or answer any of their questions.

Shoplifting

On May 2nd, 2024 at 1620 hours, officers were dispatched to the report of a shoplifter at Walmart in Hermantown. Dispatch stated that employees witnessed a woman under scanning items at the self-checkout area.

Officers arrived and employees advised that the female was in the self-checkout area with a cart full of items that she scanned using the Walmart app. The female cancelled the transaction and had not paid for the items. They explained after she cancelled the order, she was acting suspicious and was not attempting to pay for the items in her cart.

Store employees stopped the woman as she attempted to leave the store. The 34-year-old woman told officers that she scanned all the items using the Walmart app. She said she did not try to steal the merchandise and thought she paid for it through scan and go. She admitted to cancelling the transaction after scanning all the items through scan and go. She stated she was going to use her cash app to pay for the merchandise, but would not show officers her cash app balance when requested.

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The woman also admitted to stealing on 12/10/2023. That merchandise was worth \$639.67.

After reviewing the video, officers learned that the woman only scanned approximately \$590 worth of merchandise before tax. The actual total of the stolen merchandise from today's incident was \$717.11, which meant she did not scan approximately \$127 worth of merchandise.

The woman was then placed under arrest for gross misdemeanor shoplifting. The woman had a knife on her at the time of her arrest and she told officers to dispose of it.