

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 09/01/24 to 09/07/24, the Hermantown PD had 210 calls. The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

Assault

On September 3rd, 2024 at 1057 hours, a Hermantown officer was patrolling the Walmart lot and observed a vehicle that had no front license plate, and there was a male rummaging around in the back seat of the vehicle. There were numerous clothing items on the ground and hung from the vehicle, and the male continued to pull items out.

The officer found the vehicle was recently involved with a male who had five active warrants out for his arrest, including domestic assault and failing to register as a predatory offender, drug possession and card fraud. The officer recognized this 46-year-old man from recent contact. During the last contact, the male physically fought with officers and had a loaded handgun in his possession.

The officer asked another squad to respond and decided to approach the male at this time. Officers told the man that he had active warrants and to put his hands up. The man cursed at the officer and began reaching into his pockets with his right hand. The officer told the man to stop reaching for things and attempted to grab his arm. The man flung his arms at the officer and the officer grabbed the man.

The man then grabbed the officer's radio and pulled it out of its holster on his vest. At this point, both men were on the ground and the man continued resisting. The man swore at the officer and began pulling and grabbing at items on his vest and throwing his hands up towards his head. The officer claimed that the man continued to resist arrest by holding on to him.

At this time, the officer noted that the man had both of his hands on this handgun as he was trying to pull it out of its holster. The officer told the man to let go of his gun and began delivering elbow strikes to the man's facial area. The man finally said "okay okay, I'm done," and removed his hands from the firearm. The officer was then able to place the man in handcuffs and have medical attend to his injuries.

Prior to transport to jail, the man told the officer that he had something in his hoodie pocket. During the search, the officer located a small plastic baggie containing suspected methamphetamine.

Ultimately, the man was booked and charged with disarming a police officer, 4th Degree Assault, Obstruct with Force, Possession of Brass Knuckles and 5th Degree Possession.

Missing Child

On September 4th, 2024 at 2247 hours, dispatch advised of a lost child at the Walmart in Hermantown. The reporting party had told officers that her four-year-old daughter was currently missing and Walmart staff was assisting in trying to locate the child.

After a short search, the child was found in the barbie section by Walmart staff. No other assistance was needed.

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Shoplifting

On September 2nd, 2024 at 1432 hours, officers were dispatched to a report of a shoplifter at Fleet Farm in Hermantown. Store employees advised they were currently chasing a female suspect towards Hom Furniture.

Officers responded and spoke with an employee who believed the suspect went inside of the furniture store. Officers went into Hom Furniture and immediately observed a female matching the description. The female was initially walking away from officers, but then began grabbing at furniture items as she appeared to be shopping.

Officers approached the 23-year-old woman and asked if she had just ran away from Fleet Farm employees. The woman said no, and that she was just there trying to do some shopping. She denied having been at Fleet Farm. Officers knew this to be a lie and detained the woman at this time. Officers located stolen merchandise on the ground near the store's entrance.

While driving to Fleet Farm, the woman told officers that she had \$20.00 and asked if she could give that to Fleet Farm to try and work something out. The woman told officers she would not speak to them about the theft. The woman had attempted stealing a total of \$177.39 worth of merchandise.

Due to the fact the woman fled on foot from staff, lied to law enforcement about having been at Fleet Farm, ditched the stolen items in Hom Furniture, and was found to have an active promise-to-appear warrant out of St. Louis County for theft, she was placed under arrest for the shoplifting offense. She was also trespassed from Fleet Farm for one year.

Fraud

On September 3rd, 2024 at 1727 hours, officers received a call from a Hermantown resident who was claiming to have been scammed out of nearly \$4,000. The 82-year-old woman was very worried about what happened.

Officers spoke with the woman who stated that she was speaking with a person on the phone who claimed to be a representative from Amazon. They were trying to confirm a recent order they stated that the woman had placed. The woman stated that she was transferred several times throughout this ordeal. At one point, she explained that she was speaking with a party claiming to be a bank representative and another time someone claimed to be a police officer. The officer was explaining to the woman that her name was on some type of money laundering list and that she was in trouble.

The woman stated that the parties had told her to withdraw \$4,000 from an ATM, but she told Hermantown officers that she never did this and didn't send out any money to anyone. Officers told the woman to be sure and call her bank to verify that her funds were safe and to call back if any money was withdrawn from her account that she didn't authorize. No further police assistance at this time.

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