

AROUND TOWN



Chief
Jim Crace

Deputy Chiefs
Mark Gunderson
Jon Esterbrooks

Sergeants
Griffin Pfeiffer - K9
Jon Pernu - K9

Detective Bureau
Jeff Dwyer
Jake Williams

Officers
Jason Salo - SRO
Jon Enright
Erika Johnson
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 11/10/24 to 11/16/24, the Hermantown PD had 189 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

Traffic Stop

On November 11th, 2024 at approximately 2235 hours, patrol officers conducted a traffic stop on Highway 53 near West Arrowhead road. A query the vehicles plate had showed that the registration was revoked, and the license plates should be impounded. The female driver of the vehicle verbally identified herself after stating she did not have any form of identification on her.

The officers soon discovered that the woman had provided a false name. The woman then admitted to giving her sister's name and date of birth because she was scared of going to jail due to her driving status. A query of the correct information showed the woman's driving status was cancelled, inimical to public safety.

The 30-year-old woman was then placed into custody and transported to St. Louis County Jail. She was lodged with charges of DAC-IPS, providing a false name to a police officer, and displaying revoked registration.

Threats

On November 13th officers took report of a threat call that occurred near the 4400 block of Sugar Maple Drive. The caller was reporting an interaction with a reckless driver that had threatened to shoot him.

Officers called to speak with the man who recalled the incident that had occurred along Miller Trunk Highway. The driver stated he was driving southbound when he observed a vehicle approaching at a high rate of speed in his rearview mirror. The vehicle had attempted to squeeze between him and the vehicle in the lane next to him, and was following behind him as he turned.

The aggressive driver then pulled into the parking lot next to the reporting party, and signaled him to roll his window down. The suspect then made verbal threats to him, including threatening to shoot him with the gun in his car. The suspect then left the lot and drove into the parking lot of a nearby business. The reporting party stated he feared for his safety as the vehicle he was driving identified his place of work.

Officers located the suspect vehicle nearby, and were able to talk to the man. The suspect admitted to the incident, saying he got angry with the other driver and lost his temper. He said he didn't mean what he had said about shooting him, and that he doesn't own any firearms.

Shoplifting Arrest

On November 14th, 2024 at 1543 hours officers were dispatched to a shoplifting incident in progress at Walmart. The woman caught the attention of loss prevention staff as she was acting oddly aggressive in the store, and ripping packages open, concealing merchandise in her pockets. The

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woman was reported to be running out of a fire exit into the parking lot with the unpaid merchandise. The suspect had run around the outside of the building, and entered into the passenger side of a vehicle which was fleeing southbound on Miller Trunk Highway.

The suspect vehicle was soon located, and a traffic stop was conducted. Officers made contact with the driver of the vehicle, and observed the suspect in the back seat. As they attempted to speak to the driver, the female suspect in the backseat was acting erratically, and became verbally aggressive toward officers. The woman was asked to step out of the vehicle in an attempt to alleviate the behavior.

Officers continued to try to speak to both women, but the suspects behavior continued to escalate. The woman began screaming at officers, and made an attempted to re-enter the vehicle through the open window. As the woman was detained, she kicked one of the officers, and bit down onto the hand of another officer causing injury.

Ultimately the 32-year-old woman was transported to St. Louis County Jail and lodged on several charges relating to the incident. The total monetary value of the shoplifted merchandise was \$112.00.

Vehicle Fire

On November 14th, 2024 officers were dispatched to a report of a vehicle on fire in the 5300 block of Miller Trunk Highway. Officers arrived on scene and were able to begin taming the flames before Hermantown Fire arrived and extinguished the fire.

Officers learned that the driver of the vehicle was headed northbound on Miller Trunk Highway when a deer jumped out from the median and was struck. The collision with the deer caused a fire in the engine compartment, and disabling front-end damage to the vehicle. The driver of the vehicle reported no injuries on scene.

Suspicious Activity

On November 14th, 2024 at approximately 1757 hours, dispatch advised of suspicious activity reported on Cedar Ridge Drive.

Officers learned that a resident called to report someone ringing their doorbell and running away. It was reported to have occurred three times in ten minutes, but nobody was ever at the door. Officers drove the area multiple times, and did not observe anyone outside, or unusual sounds in the neighborhood.

The reporting party was advised of their findings, and informed it was likely children playing "ding-dong ditch". No further police action at this time.

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