

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 12/22/24 to 12/28/24, the Hermantown PD had 127 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

DWI

On December 24th, 2024 around 1904 hours officers were dispatched to a report of a possible intoxicated driver near the 4100 block of Haines Road. The reporting party called 911 after observing the female who appeared to be “drunk” get into the driver’s side of a vehicle.

Officers arrived on scene just as the described vehicle left the parking lot. Officers got behind the vehicle in the fully marked squad and followed it northbound on Haines Road. The vehicle was observed traveling at varied speeds, crossing over lines, and weaving in the lane. The officer then initiated a traffic stop along Miller Trunk Highway near West Arrowhead Road.

Officers approached the vehicle and advised the solo female occupant the reason for the stop. When the woman was asked how many drinks she had that night, she said “I don’t know, like five?”. The woman clarified that the five drinks she consumed were twelve-ounce beers, with her last drink about twenty minutes prior to driving. As the officers spoke with the woman about her possible level of intoxication, she stated “I mean, I’m not going to lie, I probably shouldn’t be driving”.

The woman agreed to perform field sobriety testing, which she failed, further confirming impairment. The preliminary breath test results were .24 BAC. The woman was then advised she was under arrest for DWI, and transported to Hermantown PD for further testing. Once at the police department officers conducted a DMT test with the woman, with her final result being .23 BRAC.

It was discovered that the 40-year-old woman had a prior DWI charge in 2021. She was then transported to St. Louis County Jail and charged with 2nd Degree DWI.

Domestic

On December 25th, 2025 officers were dispatched to a domestic assault call that occurred on the 4300 block of Elmwood Lane. The female caller had fled the residence to a friend’s house, and stated the male party was still at the home.

An officer met with the woman who was obviously upset and had facial injuries she said were sustained in the assault. The woman recalled the events of the incident, and stated it was the first time he had physically assaulted her. She mentioned that the male half had also been drinking alcohol.

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Officers then visited the residence to speak to the male. The man was sitting in clear view and refused to come to the door or speak to the officers. The officers continued to try to communicate with the man through the door, but he refused to respond.

The female party authorized officers to force entry into their home if the male would not cooperate. After several more attempts to get the male to open the door, officers used force to enter the door of the home. The 30-year-old male was still sitting at the table, and was detained without further incident.

Disturbance

On December 26th at approximately 1012 hours officers were dispatched to a report of a male and female yelling outside Walmart.

Officers soon arrived on scene and found the described pair at the nearby bust stop. The woman stated they were just frustrated about a phone plan sold to them by Walmart. The male and female were both calm when speaking to officers.

Public Assistance

On December 26th at 1652 hours a patrol officer was approached by a woman in the Fleet Farm parking lot. The elderly woman was wondering if the officer knew who could help her put air in the tires of her car. The officer escorted the woman to a nearby gas station, but the air machine was out of order. They then traveled to a second location, and the officer assisted the woman in airing up her tires.

The woman then mentioned she was a bit turned around as she had just moved to the area, and it was now dark out. The officer drove the route to her apartment, and the woman was thankful to get home safely.

Suspicious Activity

On December 28th, 2024 around 2127 hours officers received a report of suspicious activity that occurred in the Walmart parking lot.

The female caller reported that she and her friends had gone shopping at Walmart, and while parked they observed a car occupied with a couple of men park next to them. After they

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finished shopping, they got into their car and drove away when they noticed something on their windshield that appeared to be a wrapped cookie.

The females drove to another local department store before stopping to investigate. The women stated they wanted to call police to see what to do as they were concerned the cookie could be linked to possible trafficking.

The parties were advised to discard the cookie. No further police action was needed at this time.