

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 03/16/25 to 03/22/25, the Hermantown PD had 165 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

Traffic Accident

On March 18th, 2025 around 1455 hours dispatch advised of an accident that occurred at the intersection of Haines and Arrowhead Road. The reporting party was a witness who said that a single vehicle had struck a powerline, causing it to fall in the roadway. The traffic lights were also reported to be out, and a small grass fire had started near the live power lines. An additional witness said they observed male driver crawl out of the crashed vehicle, and give a "thumbs up".

Officers arrived on scene and confirmed the driver of the vehicle was uninjured. While speaking to the driver officers learned that the man had been eating chicken nuggets while steering with his knee. The vehicle had veered off to the side, hit the curb, and drove into the grass. The vehicle then struck two power lines, and continuing eastbound in the ditch before striking the power box and causing the traffic lights to go out.

The 24-year-old male driver was issued a citation for inattentive driving.

Stolen Vehicle

On March 19th, 2025 officers were informed of a theft that had occurred at Kolar Chevrolet. The staff called to report that a vehicle had been stolen off of the lot. They advised that clear footage was obtained of the entire incident.

Officers arrived and met with staff to view the footage. The video shows the suspect walking near the lot before bending to pick something up off of the ground. The suspect then presses the buttons of the key fob they found on the ground. The vehicles lights are seen flashing several times as the buttons on the key fob were pressed. A short time later, the suspect is seen entering the vehicle before backing it out of the parking space and heading westbound on West Arrowhead Road.

Officers learned that the vehicle had been taken in on trade, and was set to go to auction. An employee from the auction company had misplaced the key, and it had ended up in the grass near the ditch.

Around 2200 hours on March 19th, patrol officers located the stolen vehicle in Walmart's parking lot. The vehicle was unoccupied and unlocked, and the key fob was not inside. The vehicle was secured, and towed from the lot.

Upon further investigation, a suspect in the incident was positively identified. Officers learned that the female suspect had been released from jail less than one hour prior to the theft

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incident. While conducting an interview with the suspect, the 34-year-old woman admitted to the vehicle theft, and relinquished the key fob that she had on her person.

Suspicious Activity

On March 19th, 2025 around 1717 hours, officers were dispatched to a report of suspicious activity occurring in the 4700 block of West Arrowhead Road. The reporting party observed a person digging in a dumpster for a local business. Officers arrived in the area, and did not initially observe anyone around the dumpsters. After speaking to the reporting party, a man was located inside a dumpster nearby.

The man was identified and cooperative when speaking with officers who asked him to vacate the dumpster. The man stated that he had found a jacket and a pair of gloves inside the dumpster, and he could really use them. Officers checked with the business and confirmed that the items were discarded. The man was allowed to take the items, and began cleaning up the mess that was made outside the dumpster. The man then left the area, and said he planned to catch a bus ride.

Check Welfare

On March 19th at 1902 hours a patrol officer observed a man dragging his leg while walking in front of Walmart. The officer stopped to speak with the man to see if he needed assistance. The man said that he had sustained a leg injury in a car accident within the last few weeks. The man said he had sought medical treatment at a clinic, but that he left because they were taking too long. The man requested an ambulance to transport him for medical care. Officers stayed with the man until the ambulance arrived.

Trespassing

On March 21st, 2025 around 1855 hours, dispatched advised of suspicious activity near the 3800 block of Old Midway Road. The reporting party observed three young males arrive in a vehicle and climb through a gate of private property. While in route to the address, officers spoke with the owner of the parcel who stated there should not be anyone on the property. They mentioned they have had an ongoing issue with trespassers, and requested that anyone located would be formally trespassed.

Upon arrival the vehicle in question was located unoccupied, and nobody visible in the immediate area. The officers navigated through the fence, and located three young males walking around the property. The three were all cooperative with law enforcement, and said they were just out exploring the area. The boys were informed that it is private property, and they were not welcome to be on it. The three were trespassed from the property, and left the area.

Hermantown Police Department
5111 Maple Grove Road, Hermantown, MN 55811
218.729-1200 // cops@hermantownmn.com

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