

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 04/06/25 to 04/12/25, the Hermantown PD had 182 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.**

Sound of Shots

On April 6th, 2025 around 1616 hours officers were informed of shots heard in the 3700 block of Johnson Road. The reporting party heard what sounded like two shots from a shotgun nearby while they were outside their residence. Officers arrived in the area and noted it smelled strongly of gasoline. There was also a four-wheeler nearby being started repeatedly that sounded as though it was not idling properly. The reporting party was informed that the noises heard were likely the sounds of backfiring. There were no further reports of shots heard in the area.

Traffic Stop

On April 7th, 2025 at 1048 hours patrol officers observed a vehicle on Morris Thomas Road that appeared to be traveling at a high rate of speed. With use of a radar, the vehicle was confirmed to be traveling at 68mph in a marked 45mph zone. The vehicle braked quickly as it approached the stationary squad, and pulled into an address nearby. The officers activated their emergency lights and conducted a stop of the vehicle. The male driver was identified and observed to have a canceled driver's license. The female passenger was identified, and found to have two active local warrants for her arrest. Both parties were advised they were under arrest, and taken into custody. The male driver was ultimately charged with Driving After Cancellation- Inimical to Public Safety, and Speeding. The female was transported to St. Louis County Jail to be held on her warrants. While at intake, jailers located suspected methamphetamine on her person. The female was subsequently charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance, and Introducing Contraband into a Correctional Facility.

Disturbance

On April 11th, 2025 at 2202 hours officers received report of unknown trouble at Walmart. The reporting individual had heard an unknown male inside Walmart screaming for help. There did not appear to be any signs of distress, and the young male shouting had been last observed near the produce section. Squads soon arrived and located a group of juvenile males that split up when they observed officers. The males were stopped and questioned about the reported disturbance. The males eventually admitted they had been running around the store and screaming because they thought it was funny. They were advised that a report was made, and were asked to leave the store.

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



Juvenile Complaint

On April 11th, 2025 at 1951 hours dispatch advised officers there was a complaint of children throwing gravel into the roadway near the 4300 block of Ugstad Road. The reporting party said several male juveniles that were throwing the gravel at passing vehicles. Officers arrived to the area and located the group of boys. They admitted to throwing gravel into the roadway, but denied ever hitting cars. The boys mentioned they had been out “ding-dong ditching” and were on their way home. The group was informed of the complaint, and advised to stop the disruptive behavior.

Traffic Accident

On April 12th, 2025 at 1157 hours officers were dispatched to a traffic accident near the intersection of Morris Thomas and Haines Road. The driver of vehicle one stated they were stopped at the stop sign and were rear-ended by vehicle two. The driver of vehicle two said their glasses had dropped to the floor as they approached the four way stop. They attempted to pick up the glasses that had fallen behind the gas and brake pedals, and did not see the vehicle stopped in front of them.

Shoplifting Arrest

On April 12th, 2025 at approximately 1436 hours officers were informed of a shoplifter at Walmart. The suspect was reported to have concealed merchandise on his person, and eaten items off of the shelf without purchasing them. As officers arrived, they observed the suspect walking out of the store before he quickly turned and started walking back into the store with loss prevention staff. The male was uncooperative with Walmart staff and walking away from them. Officers gave chase while announcing themselves and commanding the man to stop. The suspect refused to stop, and continued into the men’s bathroom. While following the man, officers observed him walk directly to a garbage can and toss a small pouch into it while continuing to ignore them. The pouch was collected for evidence, and later found to contain drug paraphernalia and a white powder substance that field tested positive for Fentanyl. The suspect was uncooperative and argumentative about the shoplifting charge, stating that when he was confronted by loss prevention he returned the watches he had concealed. The man was also argumentative about the level of the drug charge, stating that the drugs were not his. While in the loss prevention office, the man was found to be wearing a shoulder bag that was empty other than the paper stuffing from the store. Walmart confirmed this item was also shoplifted. Officers then learned that a neighboring agency had probable cause to arrest the man in relation to a motor vehicle theft. The man was advised he was under arrest, and began escorting him out of the store. As the officers passed the theft detection sensors at the doorway, they activated again. As they reached the squad, the man began to slide his pants

AROUND TOWN



Chief
Jim Grace

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

down and reveled additional stolen items that were concealed in his underwear. While attempting to place the man into the back of the squad he became increasingly more agitated and refused to get inside. The man would continually pull himself away and attempt to drop to the ground as dead weight. The man was verbally uncooperative, and forcibly resisted officers as he did not agree with the arrest. As additional backup arrived, the man was lifted and placed into the squad. The man continued to scream and kick the door while inside the prisoner compartment. The 24-year-old male was transported to St. Louis County Jail and lodged on several charges.

