

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 04/27/25 to 05/03/25, the Hermantown PD had 170 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

Arrest

On April 27th, 2025 an officer patrolling the Walmart parking lot conducted a routine query on a motorcycle, and found it to be registered to a man with felony warrants. The warrants and identity of the male were confirmed just as the male started to walk toward the motorcycle.

Officers pulled the squad up to him with their emergency lights activated, and shouted out to the male by name. The man ignored the officer, and stated that wasn't his name before getting onto the motorcycle and attempting to start it. The man was advised he was under arrest, and to step off of the motorcycle. He continued to try to start the motorcycle while tensing his body and pushing away from the officer, yelling that it was not his name.

The officer made further attempts to detain the man as he resisted, pushing the officer away, and trying to start the motorcycle with each hand. The officer was able to remove the man from the motorcycle and escorted him to the ground, before the man regained balance and stood to his feet. The man then continued to shove the officer, and was able to slip away briefly and flee a short distance toward the Walmart store.

The man was taken to the ground again as backup arrived to help detain the man safely. The man continued to say that he did not have warrants, and provided a false name and date of birth as verbal identification. Officers discovered several cards with the correct name on his person, further confirming his identity. The man eventually conceded that he had given a false name.

Ultimately the man was transported to St. Louis County Jail to be held on the warrants. Additional charges were sent relating to the incident including fleeing an officer on foot, obstructing the legal process, and giving a false name to police.

Found Property

On April 29th, 2025 at 1117 hours, a call came into dispatch regarding a gun that was found roadside near Loberg Ave and Market Street.

Officers arrived on scene and observed the loaded pistol laying on the curb of the east shoulder of Loberg Avenue near the intersection with Market Street. The gun was retrieved by officers and brought to the police department for processing.

Upon investigation, officers were successfully able to identify the owner of the gun. Officers contacted the man who confirmed he was the current owner of the gun, and had lost it two days ago. The man said the pistol must have fallen off the tailgate of his truck as he frequently drove in the area it was located.

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When questioned why the man had not reported the gun missing to law enforcement, he said he had been searching all over for it, and wanted to make sure he checked all possible locations prior to making a report. The man further stated that the gun is not typically stored in his vehicle, and he did not suspect that anyone had gone through his vehicle and taken it without permission.

Check Welfare

On April 29th, 2025 at 1614 hours officers were dispatched to check the welfare of an individual in the Walmart parking lot. The reporting party had observed a woman with an unlit cigarette in her mouth that had been slumped over in a vehicle for over an hour.

Officers arrived to the location and found the woman slumped in the driver's seat with her eyes shut and the unlit cigarette in her mouth. The keys for the vehicle were in the ignition, and the vehicle was running. There were several small plastic baggies in plain view on the woman's lap as well as the passenger seat.

Officers knocked on the car's window, and after several seconds the woman responded by lifting her head. The woman appeared confused before slowly reaching toward the ignition to shut the car off. The woman then stared at the officers through the window with a confused look while they asked for her to roll the window down or open the door. The woman began looking at the door and struggling to operate the handle, but was ultimately able to open the door.

The officers asked the woman if she was okay, and what was going on. The woman replied with slow, slurred speech, and said she had been working a lot. The woman denied using any prescription or illicit drugs, and stated she does not drink. When asked how long the woman thought she had been passed out she said "not long", but estimated the current time to be 90 minutes earlier than it was. The woman failed field sobriety testing, showing many signs of impairment.

The 36-year-old woman was ultimately arrested for suspicion of driving under the influence of a controlled substance.

Structure Fire

On May 1st, 2025 at 2218 hours officers were alerted of a structure fire at a residence in the 3500 block of Haines Road. The reporting party said they had been using their sauna earlier in the night, and when they went back to check on it they found the building to be on fire.

Upon arrival the shed was found to be fully engulfed with flames. Hermantown Fire was about to tame the fire quickly, preventing any spread to neighboring structures.

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