

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 07/13/25 to 07/19/25, the Hermantown PD had 205 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

Disturbance, DWI

On July 13th, 2025 around 0045 hours, officers were dispatched to a reported disturbance in the 3900 block of Stebner Road. The caller said that a male had assaulted her and thrown her car keys into the woods.

Officers arrived on scene and observed two females standing outside the residence, one of whom was yelling loudly and appeared upset. The upset female began screaming at a male party who walked outside of the residence nearby. The parties were then separated so that officers could ascertain what had occurred.

Upon investigation officers learned that the two 20-year-old females were intoxicated, and the male party had taken the car keys to prevent them from driving. It was determined that that no assault had occurred between the male and the females.

One of the females was issued a citation for underage consumption of alcohol, and transported to the care of her family. The second underage female was detained and transported to detox due to her level of intoxication. At approximately 0240 hours, staff from detox reported to police dispatch that the woman had fled the facility on foot.

A short time after being notified that the woman had left, officers were made aware that the woman had returned to the Stebner Road address, and drove away in her vehicle. Officers began patrolling the area, and soon located the suspect vehicle at a gas station with a woman in the driver's seat.

Officers approached the vehicle, and identified the woman from the earlier contact. The woman was found to have several alcoholic beverages in her vehicle, including open containers. Field sobriety testing was conducted, and confirmed she was intoxicated. The woman was ultimately charged with driving while intoxicated and possessing an open container of alcohol.

Traffic Stop

On July 14th, 2025 while on routine patrol, a traffic stop was conducted near the Maple Grove and Lavaque Road intersection. Officers learned the registered owner of the vehicle had an expired driving status, and matched the description of the driver.

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Upon contact the woman said she did not have her ID with her, and offered a name and date of birth verbally. Officers believed this information was likely false due to her inability to spell the name correctly after several attempts, and no records found with the name given.

With further questioning, the driver admitted she had provided her sister's name and date of birth. She eventually provided a temporary paper license, and was confirmed to be the registered owner of the vehicle. When asked for insurance, the woman stated she did not have any on the vehicle. She later said she did have insurance, but had no way to prove it.

Additionally, officers noted that the woman was ordered to have an interlock device installed on her vehicle, which was not present. When asked about it, the woman said she had an appointment to get one that day.

The driver was ultimately issued a citation for driving after revocation, providing a false name to police, no proof of insurance, and driving without an interlock device when required.

Shoplifting

On July 14th 2025 around 1517 hours, officers were dispatched to a reported shoplifter at Walmart. The male suspect had been observed concealing items in duffel bags inside of a shopping cart.

While officers were in route, staff said the male continued to conceal items while slowly making his way toward the exit doors. As the man exited the building without making any attempt to pay for the merchandise, he was stopped by loss prevention staff.

Officers met with the man in the loss prevention office who was cooperative and willing to speak to them. The man said that he had come to Walmart that day planning to shoplift merchandise. He further stated he intended to sell the items for cash so that he could make enough to pay for his fiancé's rent.

The man had taken 90 store items with a total value of \$1,231.66. While being interviewed, dispatch advised officers that the man also had a local warrant for his arrest. The 52-year-old male was detained and transported to St. Louis County Jail where he was lodged on Felony Shoplifting charges as well as his Gross Misdemeanor warrant.

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