

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 08/10/25 to 08/16/25, the Hermantown PD had 157 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

Traffic Stop

On August 12th, 2025 officers conducted a traffic stop in the 4700 block of Maple Grove Road after observing several traffic infractions. Upon approach to the vehicle, the male driver informed officers he had been on his phone, but not while driving. The officers then explained the driving conduct that was observed that resulted in the traffic stop. The man was asked for his identification and insurance information, but was not able to provide proof of insurance for the vehicle. A query of the driver's record showed that his driving status was listed as cancelled in the state of Minnesota. The male was advised he was under arrest, and transported him to St. Louis County Jail for charges of driving after cancellation, inimical to public safety.

Found Property

On August 12th, 2025 at 1451 hours, officers were dispatched to Menards for report of a found firearm. Officers arrived and spoke to the manager who said the firearm had been left behind by a customer in the men's bathroom. The owner of the gun soon returned to Menard's to reclaim it. The man provided his valid permit to carry permit, and was able to describe the missing firearm in detail. Once ownership was confirmed, the gun was placed into the man's vehicle by officers.

Suspicious Activity

On August 12th, 2025 around 0056 hours, dispatch advised of a young child who was wandering in the Econo Lodge unsupervised. An employee of the hotel said the young child appeared behind the desk, and there were no adults around. Additionally, the staff had not observed anyone looking for a lost child, or received any calls to the desk about it. Around five minutes later, the reporting party called back and said the parents had come to collect the child in the lobby. The family was confirmed to be guests of the hotel who had recently checked into their room.

Check Welfare

On August 14th, 2025 around 0005 hours a patrol officer observed an individual in the driver's seat of a parked vehicle whose head was occasionally bobbing. Concerned for their well-being,

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the officer approached the vehicle and knocked on the window. The man said that he was just sleeping, and not in need of any assistance. He explained that was low on fuel, and did not have enough money to purchase gas. He said he was planning to wait there until morning when his friend was going to bring him money to refuel his vehicle.

Traffic Stop

On August 15th, 2025 around 1434 hours, officers observed a vehicle traveling along Lindgren road with an illegal license plate cover. A traffic stop was initiated along Loberg avenue, and the vehicle was found to be occupied by two males.

The driver of the vehicle was asked for identification and insurance information, and he advised officers that he did not have a valid driver's license. The male passenger informed officers he did not have a valid driver's licenses, and stated he was not required to identify himself to law enforcement.

While the driver of the vehicle was attempting to find his insurance information, the officers conducted a query of his record. Officers observed the driver to be involved in several theft cases in the area. With further investigation, the identity of the passenger was discovered as an associated individual to a recent incident. Upon review of prior booking photos, the passenger's identity was confirmed, and he was found to have an active warrant for his arrest.

Officers returned the vehicle and informed the driver he would be issued a citation for driving after cancellation. The male passenger was advised he was under arrest, and transported to St. Louis County Jail for his warrant.

Trespassing

On August 16th, 2025 at approximately 2118 hours, officers were dispatched to Walmart to report of a trespass violation. The woman was cooperative with staff who had recognized her from previous incidents. Officers arrived and met with the reporting party and the female suspect. Team members provided previously signed forms from the suspect indicating her acknowledgement of being banned from Walmart properties. The woman told officer she was aware she is trespassed, but came to do some shopping. The 36-year-old female was issued a citation for trespassing.

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

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