

# 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 10/12/25 to 10/18/25, the Hermantown PD had 159 calls.  
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

## Traffic Stop

On October 12<sup>th</sup> patrol officers conducted a routine query of a vehicle traveling along northbound Getchell Road. The registration of the vehicle was flagged as expired, and the registered owner was found to have a revoked driving status. A traffic stop was conducted, and the driver was confirmed to be the registered owner. While speaking to the woman about the stop, the woman claimed the tabs had been stolen. The officer explained that the system shows that the tabs were never purchased. When the woman was informed she would be receiving a citation for driving after revocation, she then told the officer she had to use the restroom. Officers told her she was not free to leave, and the citation would only take a couple of minutes to complete. It was noted that while completing the citation, the woman was observed taking frequent drinks from a coffee cup in the vehicle. Upon returning to the vehicle a short time later to deliver the citation, the woman was found crouched in the driver's seat urinating. She was given citation for driving after revocation, along with a warning for the expired tabs.

## Suspicious Activity

On October 12<sup>th</sup> officers were dispatched to Stebner Park for report of suspicious activity in a parking lot. The caller said a woman, who appeared to be under the influence, was chopping at a piece of wood with an axe. Officers arrived and located the woman outside a vehicle, splitting wood with a hatchet. She was recognized to be the same woman from a traffic stop earlier in the day due to driving after revocation, and expired tabs. They stopped to speak with the woman and advise of the complaint. The woman was upset that the callers had not approached her themselves to express their concerns. They attempted to explain to the woman that the caller may have been concerned about approaching a stranger with a hatchet while their children were around. The woman told officers that she wasn't going to leave, because of her revoked driving status. She eventually agreed to have a friend come pick her up from the park. While waiting for her ride, the woman continued to ask about confronting the individual who called in the complaint about her.

## Person with Weapon

On October 12<sup>th</sup> 1221 hours, officers were dispatched to assist in apprehending a suspect from a neighboring agency. Officers were informed that the suspect had just fled across Haines Road and into the Hermantown area after chasing people with a knife at a nearby parking lot. A witness reported seeing the male take the paved Boulder Trail toward Stebner Park. Squads arrived in the area, and were preparing to deploy a K9 to track the suspect. The suspect was then observed running across a field in Stebner Park and toward the woods, still holding a knife.

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A team of officers, along with K9 Jack, began tracking the male south toward Peyton Acres, then northwest toward Stebner Road. The male was located while running through a yard in the 4000 block of Stebner road. The man, who was experiencing a mental health crisis, was taken into custody without further incident.

## Arrest

On October 13<sup>th</sup> just prior to 2144 hours, officers conducting routine patrol of the Walmart parking lot when they observed an occupied vehicle with no front license plate. The back of the vehicle was found to have a temporary tag, and a query of that tag showed the registered owner had a warrant for their arrest. A female that matched the description of the wanted individual exited the vehicle, and walked into the store. The officer followed the woman inside, and was soon able to visually confirm her identity. After calling out to the woman, she turned toward them, then continued walking away quickly. The officer jogged toward the woman, instructing her to stop, and she began running toward the back of the store. The woman ran through the store a distance before the officer was able to catch up to her and safely detain her. The woman advised officers she had drugs hidden on her person, and a small plastic bag with a white crystalline substance was located. The substance field tested positive for methamphetamine. The 21-year-old woman was transported to St. Louis County jail and lodged for the warrant, fleeing an officer on foot, and possession of a controlled substance.

## Indecent Exposure

On October 14<sup>th</sup> at approximately 1614 hours, officers were dispatched to a report of teenagers potentially engaging in a sex act in the Walmart parking lot. Officers arrived and located the pair fully clothed, lying in the backseat of the vehicle. The teens were advised that Walmart parking lot may not be the best place to be cuddling, and sent on their way.

## Shoplifting

On October 15<sup>th</sup> around 1709 hours, officer responded to a shoplifter at Walmart. The loss prevention staff said a male in an electric wheelchair had exited the store with an electric scooter without making any attempt to pay for it. Officers arrived in the area and soon observed the male attempting to hide behind a tree on the lawn of a nearby business. The officer exited their squad, and the male began navigating his wheelchair away from them. They identified themselves as law enforcement while commanding the man to stop, but he continued around the building away from them. The officer informed the suspect they would continue to follow him, and the suspect eventually stopped. The male initially said he had a receipt for the scooter, and that he was only fleeing because he was scared of police. The suspect did eventually admit to shoplifting the power scooter.

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