



Hermantown Police Department  
5111 Maple Grove Road, Hermantown, MN 55811  
218.729.1200 // cops@hermantownmn.com

# AROUND TOWN

During the week of 11/02/25 to 11/08/25, the Hermantown PD had 189 calls.  
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

## Chief

Jim Crace

## Deputy Chiefs

Mark Gunderson  
Jon Esterbrooks

## Sergeants

Griffin Pfeiffer - K9  
Jon Pernu - K9

## Detective

Jake Williams  
Jeff Dwyer

## Officers

Jason Salo  
Jon Enright  
Erika Johnson  
Olivia Gottschald  
Andrew Leibel  
Alex Prouse  
Rebecca Towner  
Lucas Hedin  
Devin Kleive  
Colin Kostiuk

## K-9 Officers

Tuuko  
Jack

## Records

Samantha Knapp  
Ashley Johnson  
Anna Johnson

### Check Welfare

On November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2137 hours officers were dispatched to the 4800 block of Miller Trunk Highway for a check welfare of a customer at a business. The reporting party said that a woman had entered the restroom an hour prior, and had not come out. The caller mentioned two employees had checked on the woman who said she was okay, but not leaving.

An officer arrived on scene and entered the women's bathroom and called out to the woman. The female responded, and informed the officer she was okay, but needed help. The woman explained that she did not have a phone, or a place to stay for the night. She was offered a phone to use, but said she did not know any phone numbers. The woman asked about going to Chum, and was provided a ride to the warming shelter by the officer.

### Check Hazard

On November 3<sup>rd</sup> around 1730 hours officers were informed of a pontoon in the driving lane of Loberg Avenue near the intersection with Maple Grove Road. Squads arrived and learned the pontoon had flipped off of a trailer and into the roadway due to a broken strap. Officers provided lights for safety while awaiting a tow truck arrive.

### Check Welfare

On November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2200 hours officers were dispatched to the 4100 block of Richard Avenue for a second-hand report of an assault occurring inside of a parked vehicle. Officers called the reporting party while in route to the call and learned they had received this information from their friend, who is a psychic medium. The friend had told the reporting party that a male relative of theirs was assaulting a woman in the parking lot of a business.

Officers responded to the area and did not locate any vehicles or people present. Dispatch confirmed there were no further calls made regarding an assault occurring. The reporting party was advised, and apologized for the false alarm.

### Traffic Pursuit

On November 4<sup>th</sup> just prior to 2025 hours a patrol officer took note of a vehicle parked in the Walmart parking lot that did not have a front license plate. The vehicle soon exited the lot, and began traveling southbound on Loberg Avenue. The officer began monitoring driving conduct



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and soon observed the vehicle weaving in the lane, crossing over both the center and fog lines briefly before correcting. The vehicle was also found to be traveling at speeds higher than the posted speed limit. The officer initiated a traffic stop as they approached the intersection of Maple Grove and Haines Road.

The vehicle pulled to the shoulder of the road, and came to a complete stop. The officer then exited their squad, and began approaching on foot. Just as the officer approached the rear of the vehicle, it accelerated, and began fleeing Eastbound on Maple Grove Road. The officer returned to their squad and began pursuing the vehicle as it fled on Haines Road driving at speeds in excess of 80mph.

The vehicle continued southbound on Haines, and began slowing to speeds of 40mph near Carlson Road. The officer was then able to conduct a PIT (Pursuit Intervention Technique), and successfully ended the pursuit. The male driver then exited the vehicle, and began fleeing on foot. While detaining the passenger of the vehicle, the male driver was observed fleeing across Haines Road eastbound near Carlson Road. The male passenger was identified and found to have an active warrant, and was held in squad while additional squads arrived along with a K9 to begin tracking the driver.

The identity of the fleeing male was confirmed via investigation, and found to be man known to law enforcement for his involvement in numerous incidents. The vehicle was towed, and a search revealed numerous plastic baggies, a hypodermic needle, a methamphetamine pipe, and residual amounts of narcotics. The 24-year-old male suspect was charged with fleeing an officer in a motor vehicle, and fleeing on foot.

## **Fire Outside**

On November 7<sup>th</sup> around 1646 hours officers responded to a report of a fire outside in the 4400 block of Ugstad Road. Officers and Hermantown Fire responded to the area, and found a man burning yard waste on his property while abiding to laws and regulations. While speaking with Hermantown fire, officers learned there had been several similar calls regarding fires at that address. Each time the fires were found to be done legally, and under compliance. They spoke to the man who said he had observed the woman yelling and gesturing at him from her home. The officers spoke to the reporting party and informed her that the male was burning within the limitations of the law, and they would not ask him to stop burning in the manner he had been. The RP stated understanding, and said she wouldn't be calling about it again.



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