



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

AROUND TOWN

During the week of 12/28/25 to 01/03/26, the Hermantown PD had 128 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

Chief
Jim Crace

Deputy Chiefs
Mark Gunderson
Jon Esterbrooks

Sergeants
Griffin Pfeiffer
Jon Pernu

Detective
Jake Williams
Jeff Dwyer

Officers
Jason Salo, SRO
Jon Enright
Erika Johnson
Olivia Gottschald, K9
Andrew Leibel
Alex Prouse
Rebecca Towner
Lucas Hedin, K9
Devin Kleive
Colin Kostiuik

K-9 Officers
Bruno
Kylo

Records
Samantha Knapp
Ashley Johnson
Anna Johnson

Disturbance

On December 30th just after 0800 hours, officers were dispatched to a disturbance at a fast food restaurant between two females. The aggressor was reported to have fled the scene, and a description of the suspect was provided to squads. On scene, officers learned the suspect had entered the building and confronted a woman known to them regarding repayment of a debt. An argument ensued, and there were threats of physical violence made. The suspect was soon located by another squad, and a traffic stop was initiated to speak to the woman. Upon approach, the woman immediately informed the officer they “did not do anything illegal”. The woman’s statement of events was taken, and she was ultimately issued a citation for disorderly conduct.

Check Welfare

On December 30th around 1700 hours, officers were dispatched to a check welfare request at a residence on Meadow Parkway. The caller stated concern after hearing a child screaming “NO!” several times inside a home. Officers quickly arrived on scene, and could hear a child screaming from inside. Through a large window, they observed a young child sitting on a couch, screaming, and covering their ears. There also noted the sound of a smoke alarm going off inside the home. They knocked at the door, and made contact with an adult inside. The adult explained that the child was okay, and just upset due to the loud noise of the smoke alarms. The adult invited officers inside to check on the child. Officers cleared the scene after speaking with the child and confirming all was well.

Domestic Assault

On January 1st at 1317 hours officers were dispatched to a disturbance and unwanted persons call at the Econo Lodge. The reporting party was requesting the two individuals be removed from the property for fighting. They were told a witness observed the female party hit the male party in the face. Officers arrived on scene and located the two sitting together on a bench in front of the hotel. They separated the two, and took statements from each. The male half said he and his fiancé had been dropped off earlier by a taxi, and were arguing over a lost wallet. The man denied that the argument ever became physical. The man smelled strongly of alcoholic beverage, and informed officers that he and his fiancé had both been drinking a lot. When the man was informed that a witness reported him being punched, he continued to deny it a short time before admitting she did strike him. The man was adamant that it was a mistake, and the woman did not mean it. The female half was interviewed, and admitted to hitting the man in the face. The female was ultimately arrested and lodged at St. Louis County Jail for domestic assault



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charges. While speaking with the male to come up with a plan for him for the night, they offered to check the man's backpack for his wallet. The man agreed, and an officer immediately located a wallet in the front pocket of the backpack which contained several cards, as well as cash. The man was assisted in booking a room at another hotel for the night.

Unwanted Person

On January 1st just before 1800 hours, officers were dispatched to the 4100 block of Haines Road for an unwanted individual inside a vehicle. The reporting party was parked in separate vehicle nearby, and calling on behalf of their brother. The caller said their brother had met someone earlier that day who was now refusing to exit his vehicle. Officers arrived on scene, and the female exited the vehicle. They spoke to the male party who said that he met the female on Snapchat earlier in the day, and agreed to meet up with her to hang out. The female was having him drive him all around the area, and when he asked her to exit the vehicle, she refused. They spoke with the woman who appeared to be intoxicated, and admitted she had been drinking. The woman agreed she would wait at the location for her friend to pick her up and bring her home.

Suspicious Activity

On January 2nd at approximately 0135 hours, a patrol officer observed a passenger vehicle drive to the rear of the business's parking lot. This caught their attention, as the business had been closed for several hours. The officer approached the vehicle, and made contact with the male driver. The officer immediately detected an odor of alcohol emitting from the vehicle as they spoke. The driver explained that he was the designated driver for his friends, and they were trying to find McDonalds. The officer informed the man that they had just passed by McDonalds, which was also closed due to the time of night. The driver admitted he did have a drink earlier in the evening, and agreed to perform field sobriety testing to be sure he was safe to drive. There were no signs of impairment noted with the testing, and the man provided a PBT sample of 0.00.

Noise Complaint

On January 3rd around 1952 hours officers were dispatched to a noise complaint in the 4800 block of Swan Lake Road. The reporting party said that there was excessive heavy equipment noise coming from both sides of their property. Officers arrived to the area and found two snow removal companies at neighboring residences that were hauling snow away. The noise was found to not be excessive at that time in the evening.



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