



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

AROUND TOWN

During the week of 12/21/25 to 12/27/25, the Hermantown PD had 143 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
Kyro

Records
Samantha Knapp
Ashley Johnson
Anna Johnson

Warrant Arrest

On December 22nd at 1823 hours an officer patrolling the area of Market Street observed a person slumped over in the passenger seat of a parked vehicle. The officer stopped to check the welfare of the individual. As they approached the vehicle, the woman sat up, and was recognized to the officer from prior law enforcement contacts. The passenger said she was okay, and just resting while waiting for her food. It was soon discovered that the woman had multiple warrants for her arrest. Upon search incident to arrest, officers located hypodermic needles on her person. While being detained, the woman informed officers she needed medical attention due to being assaulted three days prior. After medical clearance, the 31-year-old woman was lodged at St. Louis County Jail and held on the warrants.

Lost Property

On December 22nd dispatch advised of a vehicle prowl complaint that had occurred at Walmart. The reporting party said they had been at Walmart recently, and their handgun was stolen from their vehicle, or had fallen out. Several minutes later the caller informed dispatch that they had located their handgun, and wanted to cancel law enforcement response.

Shoplifting Arrest

On December 23rd at 1434 hours officers were dispatched to an active shoplifter at Fleet Farm. The male suspect was reported to be inside the store loading tools into a backpack. The man was still inside the store when officers arrived, but was soon observed exiting the store and running across the parking lot.

The male fled a short distance before being detained by officers and taken into custody. The man was searched, and found to have food items he admitted were stolen from the store. Officers also located hypodermic needles, a tin tray, and three empty vials on his person.

The man was escorted to the loss prevention office so that officers could review surveillance footage of the incident. The footage showed the man selecting a backpack from a sales display, and discarding the tags in the store. He then loaded the backpack with power tools and other merchandise, and attempted to leave without making any effort to pay for the items.

The total for the recovered merchandise was valued at \$1,217.59. The man told officers he intended to pawn the items to get money. After being informed he would be taken to jail for felony shoplifting, the man mentioned having young children at home being watched by a friend. The man was allowed to make several phone calls to line up childcare for the children.



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Squads also responded to the man's home to inform the caretaker of his arrest. The 32-year-old man was lodged at St. Louis County Jail for a charge of felony shoplifting.

Parking Dispute

On December 23rd around 1526 hours, officers responded to a disturbance in the Walmart parking lot. The reporting party said they were in a dispute with another customer over a parking spot. Officers arrived on scene and met with the individuals that were both attempting to park in the same handicap parking space. The disagreement began after one of the individuals was backing in, while the other was driving forward into it. The reporting party explained that due to health issues, they did not want to move to spot further away. The responding officer was able to locate another spot for the reporting party to use, and assisted them in getting parked.

Traffic Stop

On December 26th at 2139 hours patrol officers observed a vehicle that appeared to be driving at a high rate of speed along southbound Loberg Avenue. The squads radar device confirmed the individual was traveling at speeds of 61mph in a posted 30mph zone. A traffic stop was initiated as the man approached Maple Grove Road. The driver admitted knowing that he was driving over the speed limit, and said he does so to help cope with depression. The driver was issued a citation for speed.

Suspicious Activity

On December 27th around 0039 hours, patrol officers observed an individual inside a dumpster at a business along Lindgren Road. They spoke to the individual who was adamant that he was allowed to dumpster dive as there was no lock on the gate, and no sign saying not to. The man was advised to return during daytime hours to speak to the business owner to discuss the matter. The male stated understanding, and agreed to move along for the night.

Driving After Revocation

On December 27th at around 2215 hours, a patrol officer observed a vehicle travelling along southbound Loberg Avenue do an illegal U-turn onto northbound Loberg Avenue. A traffic stop was initiated, and the officer approached the male driver to discuss the driving conduct observed. The man identified himself, and informed the officer that his license was revoked in the state of Minnesota, and was not carrying proof of insurance. The man admitted knowing that the U-turn he made was illegal. The driver was ultimately issued a citation for driving after revocation and no proof of insurance, and given a warning for his driving conduct.



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