



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

# AROUND TOWN

During the week of 02/01/26 to 02/07/26, the Hermantown PD had 186 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

## Suspicious Activity

On February 1<sup>st</sup> shortly after 1700 hours, officers were dispatched to the 5100 block of Miller Trunk Highway. The reporting party said there were a couple of juveniles outside running around vehicles, near dumpsters, and nearby businesses. The caller said the pair had been outside for nearly an hour, and there were no parents observed in that time. Officers arrived in the area and located the children outside with walkie-talkies. The pair said they were playing while their parents were inside eating. Officers spoke to the parents, and advised of the call.

## Driving While Intoxicated

On February 1<sup>st</sup> at approximately 1724 hours, patrol officers observed a vehicle traveling in the 4400 block of Lavaque Road at what appeared to be a high rate of speed. As they followed to determine the speed, the vehicle was observed swerving aggressively, and crossing over the lane lines. As the vehicle crossed the intersection of West Arrowhead Road, it swerved onto the shoulder before overcorrecting and nearly entering the northbound lane of traffic.

The squad's emergency lights were activated, and initiated a traffic stop just south of Lavaque Junction. As the officer approached the vehicle, they immediately detected an odor of alcoholic beverage coming from the vehicle. The officer asked if there was any reason the man was not able to maintain his lane, and he said it was due to icy roads. The man was displaying several signs of intoxication, and having a difficult time forming sentences. The man was asked how much he had to drink that night, and he responded "not much".

Field sobriety testing was conducted, and indicated signs of impairment. While awaiting the breath test results, the officer asked the man if he knew what the legal limit was to be driving. The man said it was .20, and he was informed it is .08. The preliminary breath test result from the driver was .161 BAC. The driver was ultimately charged with 4<sup>th</sup> degree DWI, and failure to drive in a single lane.

## Gas Leak

On February 3<sup>rd</sup> around 2208 hours officers were dispatched to a strong odor off natural gas in the area of Jackson Street. The caller said the odor was first noticed outside, but started to come into the house. Shortly after, a second call came in regarding the smell of gas in the area of Alderberry Drive. Multiple units responded to the area, and discovered the odor was propane, and not natural gas. An air test was performed at the request of the original reporting party, and showed a normal result in the home.



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

# AROUND TOWN

## 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

### Accident

On February 4<sup>th</sup> officers were dispatched to a two-vehicle accident on Haines Road near the intersection with Anderson Road. Responding officers met with the two involved parties who said they had not been injured. Vehicle 1 sustained heavy damage to the front passenger side, and vehicle two sustained heavy damage to the rear. Officers learned that driver 1 had veered onto the shoulder while traveling southbound. Vehicle 2 had been parked on the shoulder out of the driving lane, and was unoccupied when it was struck. The driver of vehicle 1 was ultimately cited for failure to drive with due care.

### Trouble Customer

On February 5<sup>th</sup> around 1430 hours, officers responded to a report of unwanted, trouble customers at Burger King. The caller said two elderly customers had thrown balled up paper at a cashier while they were waiting for their food. Upon arrival, officers were told the pair had left after being asked to leave several times by management. Officers spoke to several other customers who had witnessed the interaction. They described the pair as unruly, and said they were yelling, swearing, and throwing things at staff. The staff provided a description of the individuals and their vehicle, and were advised to call back if they returned.

Just after 1504 hours, the suspect's vehicle was observed, and officers made contact with the driver. The man admitted that he and his brother had gone to Burger King earlier for coffee and apple pie. The order had been incorrect, and took too long to prepare. He said when he asked to talk to a manager, they were not happy with their response. The man admitted that his brother crumpled a receipt and threw it before they left with their order.

### Check Welfare

Around 0945 hours on February 7<sup>th</sup>, officers were requested to check the welfare of an individual in the 4700 block of West Arrowhead Road. A passerby reported there was someone sleeping on the sidewalk under a blanket, and their feet were nearly in the street. Squads observed the described individual boarding a city bus just as they arrived to check on them.



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

# AROUND TOWN

## **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