



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

AROUND TOWN

During the week of 05/24/26 to 05/30/26, the Hermantown PD had 238 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
Kane Kostiuik

K-9 Officers

Bruno
Kyro

Records

Samantha Knapp
Ashley Johnson
Anna Johnson

Traffic Stop

On May 26th around 1034 hours, a patrol officer was finishing a traffic stop along Highway 53 when a vehicle passed next to them, failing to yield to the emergency vehicle. The officer conducted a traffic stop on that vehicle, and discovered the registered owner had a revoked driving status. The man was given a verbal warning for failing to move for an emergency vehicle, and cited for driving after revocation.

Shoplifting

On May 25th officers were dispatched to a report of numerous shoplifting incidents that had occurred at Walmart. The loss prevention staff had determined a female suspect was connected to a total of twelve shoplifting incidents in less than a month. The total value of merchandise shoplifted was found to be \$2,746.32. Officers contacted the female to take a statement. The woman was upset and yelling on the telephone, adamant that she did not purposefully steal anything from Walmart. When the officer explained that they were attempting to speak with her to get her side of the story, the woman said she was not going to admit to anything. The suspect advised she was upset at the officer for "talking to her like a cop", and hung up the phone.

Check Welfare

On May 27th around 1851 hours officers were dispatched to a report of an unconscious man on a city bus with a wound on his head. The male was reported to be breathing normally, but the caller was unable to wake the man. Officers and medical staff responded and spoke to the male who advised that he had been struck. The man did not want to provide any details further about being struck, and was ultimately transported for additional medical care.

Traffic Stop

On May 28th an officer conducting routine patrol when they observed a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed, and holding a cell phone. The vehicle was confirmed to be driving 11mph over the speed limit. A traffic stop was initiated along Stebner Road, just south of the intersection with Morris Thomas Road. The driver was advised why she was stopped, and informed the officer she was not from the area. The 62-year-old woman was issued a citation for the hands-free cellular phone use violation, and given a warning for her speed.



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Driving While Intoxicated

At approximately 1442 hours on May 29th, officers were alerted of a suspected intoxicated driver. Officers located the vehicle parked outside of a store, and the suspect was soon observed exiting the store toward the vehicle pushing a cart. Officers noted that the woman's movements and walking pace appeared to be lethargic. They stopped to speak to the woman who admitted to drinking some beer that day. She told the officers that she had gone the short distance to the store for some snacks, but was noted to only have a case of beer in her cart. The 74-year-old female was ultimately cited for DWI.

Traffic Stop

On May 29th at approximately 2024 hours, an officer patrolling southbound in the 3700 block of Haines Road observed a vehicle approaching northbound at a high rate of speed. After confirming the vehicle was traveling 65mph in a 40mph zone, the officer turned around to conduct an enforcement stop. The vehicle pulled over to the shoulder of the road voluntarily before the officer could initiate the traffic stop. The driver apologized to the officer, and said they knew they had been speeding.

Driving While Intoxicated

On May 30th just before 1230 hours, officers were dispatched to a shoplifting incident in the 4900 block of Miller Trunk Highway. The reporting party said an individual had ran out the door with a box of chicken he had not paid for. Officers responded to the address of the suspect, and located him sitting in the parked vehicle. The suspect admitted to the theft, saying that he had ran out of money, so he stole food from the store. He was observed to have bloodshot, watery eyes, and a strong odor of alcohol emitting from his person. The man admitted to having "four beers" that day, with the last being about one hour prior. Officers conducted field sobriety testing, and subsequently arrested the man for suspicion of driving while intoxicated.