



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
Kane Kostiuik

K-9 Officers
Bruno
Kylo

Records
Samantha Knapp
Ashley Johnson
Anna Johnson

During the week of 06/28/26 to 07/04/26, the Hermantown PD had 232 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

Animal Complaint

On June 30th at 2241 hours officers were dispatched to an animal disturbance in the 5200 block of Maple Grove Road. The caller reported that a small dog was in their yard barking at them. The caller mentioned the dog was frequently seen loose in their yard. Officers met with the owner of the dog and attempted to explain the city ordinance to the woman. The female was argumentative, refusing to identify herself, and demanding the officers leave her property.

Through further investigation, the identity of the woman was confirmed. She was ultimately issued a citation for obstruction of the legal process, and having her dog at large.

Noise Complaint

On July 2nd around 0014 hours, dispatch advised of a noise complaint in the 5200 block of Lavaque Junction. The caller reported hearing loud music and pounding noises from the area.

Officers located individuals that were loading items into a trailer from a residence, and listening to music. The two were advised of the complaint, and apologized for the disturbance.

Disturbance

On July 2nd at 1506 hours officers were dispatched to a 4100 block of Loberg Avenue for report of a male causing a disturbance. As officers stopped to talk to the male, he began taking drinks from a bottle of alcohol. He said that he was swearing and causing a scene inside the building because he was "drunk". He identified himself verbally, but it was soon discovered he had provided a false name.

Once the man was positively identified, he was found to have active warrants for his arrest. The man was lodged at St. Louis County Jail for the warrants, and issued a citation for providing a false name to a peace officer.

Animal Disturbance

On July 3rd just prior to 1230 hours, officers were dispatched to a complaint of dogs left in a hot car in the Walmart parking lot. Dispatch advised the dogs were left in a vehicle with the windows slightly opened, but the windows were fogged up, and the dogs were barking constantly.



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Officers quickly arrived on scene and were flagged down by bystanders. Two large dogs were found to be inside the vehicle barking, and panting heavily. The windows were found to be rolled down approximately 1-2 inches, insufficient to provide proper airflow in the vehicle. The officer noted the temperature outside that day was noted to be 81 degrees with 70% humidity.

With great concern for the safety of the dogs, officers utilized an unlock kit to remove the dogs from the hot car. When the door was opened, it was noted to be considerably warmer inside the vehicle. The dogs both drank copious amounts of water that was offered by Walmart staff and bystanders. Officers learned that Walmart staff had made repeated attempts to page the owner of the dogs over the store's loudspeaker, but hadn't been successful.

The owner of the dogs then arrived, and said she had been in the store for around 15 minutes. Review of surveillance footage showed that the dogs had been left in the car for approximately 42 minutes. The woman was issued a citation for leaving her dogs in a motor vehicle unattended in a manner that could endanger their health.

Shoplifting

On July 3rd at 1827 hours officers were dispatched to a shoplifter at Walmart that was "skip scanning" items at the self-checkout lanes. Officers met with the cooperative female in the loss prevention office who said she was confused as to which items had not been paid for.

It was discovered that a total 134 items were not scanned, with a total value of \$1,282.33. The 28-year-old female was arrested and lodged at St. Louis County Jail for felony shoplifting.

Fireworks

On July 4th at 2250 hours officers were dispatched to report of a someone lighting firework off in a parking lot along Market Street. The caller said they had asked them to stop, but they were not cooperative. Officers met with a male who admitted to setting off fireworks. The man was advised to stop, and sent on the way.

A short time later the reporting party called back to dispatch to say that remnants of fireworks had been left behind, and there was a small fire coming from one of the boxes. A fire extinguisher was used to put the fire out.