



Hermantown Police Department  
5111 Maple Grove Road, Hermantown, MN 55811  
218.729.1200 // [cops@hermantownmn.com](mailto:cops@hermantownmn.com)

# AROUND TOWN

During the week of 07/26/26 to 08/01/26, the Hermantown PD had 206 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  
Kylo

## Records

Samantha Knapp  
Ashley Johnson  
Anna Johnson

### Warrant Arrest

On July 27<sup>th</sup> at approximately 1626 hours officers were dispatched to report of a shoplifter at Walmart. The caller reported the female had concealed items inside of a suitcase, and left the store without making any attempt to pay for the items.

Officers soon arrived and located a woman matching the description given by loss prevention staff. The woman identified herself, and was found to have an active warrant for her arrest. Officers confirmed the items reported stolen were inside of the suitcase the woman was carrying. After speaking to loss prevention staff at Walmart, the suspect was placed into the rear of the squad car to be transported to jail.

While in route to the jail, the woman told the officer that she had taken fentanyl, and was overdosing. The woman then slumped over with her eyes closed and became semi-unresponsive. The officer performed a sternum rub on the woman, which she responded to immediately. The woman was transported for medical care where she later disclosed that she hadn't taken drugs, but only said she had because she didn't want to go to jail. The woman was ultimately cited for shoplifting, and transported to St. Louis County Jail to be held on her warrant.

### Check Welfare

On July 27<sup>th</sup> at 1850 hours officers were dispatched to a check welfare request on an individual on Miller Trunk Highway near Abrahamson Road. The caller reported driving past a male sitting in the ditch while waving his arms around.

Officers located the described male walking along Miller Trunk Highway. They stopped to ask the man if he was okay, and he said "no". He told officers that he was laying in the ditch because he had hurt his ankle. The man denied medical care, and told officers he was walking his way to Hibbing. The male then asked the officer for a ride to detox, and was transported per his request.

### Traffic Stop

On July 28<sup>th</sup> at 2018 hours officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle traveling along Miller Trunk Highway with an inoperable brake light. The driver of the vehicle told officers he did not have a valid drivers license, and that the vehicle was not insured. He explained that he had recently purchased the vehicle, and had not yet transferred the title into his name.



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The passenger of the vehicle was found to have a valid license, and was allowed to move the vehicle to a nearby parking lot. The original driver was issued a citation, and advised to keep the vehicle parked until it was properly insured.

### Suspicious Activity

On July 29<sup>th</sup> around 1730 hours officers were called to a suspicious activity call in the 4800 block of Maple Grove Road. The caller reported that a male was sitting in a parked vehicle and watching children during their practice. The caller said the unknown male was shirtless, and making people feel uncomfortable.

Officers responded to the area and located the man in the driver's seat of the described vehicle. The man told officers he lived in the vehicle during the summer, and was just relaxing and enjoying the shade. The man was advised he should consider finding another place to relax shirtless to avoid additional calls from concerned parents.

### Check Welfare

On July 30<sup>th</sup> just after 0633 hours officers were dispatched to the 4100 block of Haines Road for a check welfare request of a female. The caller reported a woman was sitting on the ground on her knees, and possibly under the influence of a substance. The caller said the woman was conscious and alert, but would not respond to them.

While in route to the location, they were given an update that a male had and the two began running away together.

Officers quickly located the pair nearby, with the man helping the woman walk. The male half advised the female had just taken fentanyl, and may have taken too much.