



AROUND TOWN

A Publication of the Hermantown Police Department

Date: Nov 22, 2009 to Nov 28, 2009

Chief

Michael Anderson

Deputy Chief

Shawn Padden

Sergeants

William Marsolek

Mark Gunderson

Officers

Paul Johnson

Tom Wick (K9)

Kristi Hansen

Jason Salo (LSGDTF)

Kody Vedder (SRO)

Lisa Volk

Griffin Pfeiffer

Jon Esterbrooks

Tim Battaglia

Clerical

Jessica Treviranus

Luanne McMillan

Tara Rotta

K-9

Nero

The following are selected police related incidents that the Hermantown Police Department has responded to between 11/22/09 to 11/28/09.

Disturbances / Domestic / Assaults:

Just before 8 p.m. on 11/23/09, Officer Esterbrooks received a call in reference to a "Drano bomb" going off in a Wal-Mart garbage can. Loss Prevention at Wal-Mart reviewed security tapes and observed two juvenile males entering the building at 7:44 p.m. One of the males placed a Mt. Dew bottle into a newly emptied garbage can. Two minutes later, the bottle exploded. The males were observed on tape exiting the building a short time later. No one was hurt in this incident.

At 1:30 a.m. on 11/28/09, Officer Volk and assisting officers responded to the area of Arrowhead Road east of Miller Trunk Highway to the report of a male with a knife making threatening gestures. Officers pulled over several vehicles in the area and questioned a number of people, none of whom were determined to be involved in the incident. Officer Volk eventually spoke with the reporting party, a 26-year-old male. After questioning, the man admitted to Officer Volk that he had exaggerated the situation and that he had not seen a weapon. He

stated that a 21-year-old male that his friend knew was intoxicated and had been told to leave the bar. He stated the male made some threatening hand gestures, but had not actually put a knife to the reporting party's throat, as he stated to 911 Dispatch. The man told Officer Volk that once he saw how quickly officers responded to the weapons call, he realized he should not have tied up public safety resources by saying there was a knife involved when there was not. The man was issued a citation for falsely reporting a crime.

Driving While Intoxicated:

At 11:57 p.m. on 11/28/09, Officer Salo observed a vehicle near the intersection of Arrowhead Road and Haines Road switch lanes without signaling. Upon speaking with the 23-year-old female driver, Officer Salo noticed a moderate odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from her and requested she perform field sobriety tests. After field sobriety testing, Officer Salo gave the woman a preliminary breath test, which resulted in a .092% blood alcohol content. The woman was issued a citation for 4th degree DWI, .08 or more, and fail to signal lane change. She was lodged at the St. Louis County Jail.

Accidents:

On 11/24/09 at 3:10 p.m., Officer Pfeiffer was called to the scene of an accident on Midway Road. A vehicle driven by a 17-year-old male was stopped on Midway Road waiting for a train to clear the intersection when he was struck from



behind by a 67-year-old woman. The woman told Officer Pfeiffer that she misjudged the distance between her vehicle and the vehicle in front of her. She was issued a citation for inattentive driving. The woman's vehicle sustained moderate damage to the front end and was towed from the scene.

At 9:35 p.m. on 11/25/09, Officer Volk was informed of a motor vehicle accident on Whitetail Drive. A 47-year-old male backed out of his driveway and hit a parked car. There was minor damage to both vehicles. The driver made contact with the owner of the other vehicle.

On 11/27/09 at 3:53 p.m., Officer Wick responded to Sam's Club on the report of a personal injury accident. A 67-year-old male pedestrian was struck by a vehicle driven by a 22-year-old female, who stated that she was watching a car in front of her and did not see the man. The pedestrian was checked at the scene by First Responders.

Theft / Burglary / Shoplifting:

At 7:40 a.m. on 11/24/09, Officer Pfeiffer responded to a Miller Trunk Highway business on the report of a vehicle theft. Employees at the business believe this theft occurred between 7:00 p.m on 11/23/09, when the business was locked for the night, and 7:00 a.m. on 11/24/09. After gaining entry to a fenced lot at the business, the suspect loaded a 2004 Yamaha Rhino ATV, value \$7000, onto a snowmobile trailer, value \$1000, and hooked it up to a 2001 Chevy Silverado, value \$13331, that was parked in the lot with the keys inside. Shortly after noon on 11/24/09, Carlton County

notified the Hermantown Police Department that the stolen Chevy Silverado had been located abandoned in their jurisdiction with severe front-end damage. The investigation into this incident is ongoing.

Shortly after 6 p.m. on 11/25/09, Officer Battaglia received a report of a disturbance at Walmart. The reporting party was an 18-year-old male, who stated that Walmart employees were accusing him of stealing. Officer Battaglia was informed by Walmart employees that the male had been observed entering the bathroom with merchandise that had not been paid for, and when he exited, employees found two empty packages for an MP3 cassette adaptor and auxiliary cables. The male insisted he did not take the items and consented to a search of his person and vehicle. No theft charges were issued, as the male did not have any property on him that matched the description of the items. The male and his two companions were formally trespassed from Walmart property.

On 11/27/09 at 11:02 a.m., Officer Wick responded to Walmart on the report of a shoplifter. Loss Prevention stated they had witnessed a female open a camera box and conceal the camera and cords in her pocket. The value of the camera was \$109.00. The 27-year-old female was issued a citation for theft and trespassed from Walmart property.

