

QC vice mayor pushes for drug-free work environment

By Rio N. Araja

QUEZON City Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte on Monday urged bar, clubs and businesses to promote a drug-free workplace.

“While those who work in the city government are already required to undergo drug testing at least once a year, we also want drug-free business establishments in the private sector,” she said.

She cited the “Quezon City Business Establishment Drug-Free Ordinance” which aims to promote a “safe and healthy environment free from the use of dangerous drugs” pursuant to the Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002.

The measure covers entertainment establishments, such as KTV bars, nightclubs, spas, massage parlors, bars, restaurants and other business establishments employing 10 or more workers.

“To help the business establishments, we have an ordinance to establish more drug testing centers in our health centers, in the Quezon City General Hospital, and in the Novaliches District Hospital so that [employees] can go there in addition to all the other DoH-accredited laboratories,” she said.