

# Bingbong makes it 3-way race

By Rio N. Araja

**Q**UEZON City District 1 Rep. Vincent “Bingbong” Crisologo on Monday filed his certificate of candidacy for mayor at the Commission on Elections in the 2019 mid-term election.

He was accompanied by former presidential spokesperson and environment secretary Mike Defensor.

Former city councilor Jopet Sison also filed his CoC as Crisologo’s running mate for vice mayor.

Both are running under the Partido Demokratiko Pilipino-Lakas ng Bayan.

Crisologo will face incumbent Vice Mayor **Joy Belmonte** and former congressman Chuck Mathay, son of the late mayor Ismael Mathay and father of actress Ara Mina.

Sison will vie for the vice mayoralty against last-term District 3 Councilor

**Gian Carlo Sotto** and District 2 Councilor **Roderick Paulate**.

Crisologo, PDP-Laban-Quezon City president, said he is running because he wanted to extend more social services to the people.

Meanwhile, Quezon City Mayor **Herbert Bautista** on Monday vowed to protect the rights of the people while reducing congestion in custodial facilities by just allowing violators of city ordinances to pay fines at the barangay level, instead of apprehending them and sending them to detention centers.

He approved City Ordinance SP 2752

or the “Quezon City Procedure in the Implementation of City Ordinances” designed to make it easier for apprehending authorities and suspects to address violations and corresponding penalties.

A violator who does not want to challenge the violation and is willing to settle the corresponding fine would be allowed to do so with the city hall’s treasury office or with the barangay where the apprehension took place.

He or she shall be given five working days from the issuance of the official violation receipt to pay the fine.

He or she shall present the official violation receipt to the apprehending officer who shall attach a certified true copy of the receipt and the case documents.

“The case shall then be considered closed,” Bautista said.

Some of the violations that would be allowed settlement are the drinking of

liquor in public places, being half-naked in public places, defying curfew hours for minors and smoking in public places.

Despite the leeway, Bautista said the measure has its own limitations.

A violator, who has already availed of the no-contest provision three times, could no longer avail of the privilege, and that the maximum penalty imposed shall be filed against the violator.

A violator who does not have the capacity to pay the fine may render community service.

Should the violator be a corporation, partnership, organization or any similar entity, its president and/or general manager or managing partner, or any other officer-in-charge of the organization shall be issued the official violation receipt and be held liable.

Those below 18 years old are spared from the measure.