

QC ordinance aims to address violations without imprisonment

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MAYOR **Herbert Bautista** recently approved Ordinance SP 2752-2018, known as the “Quezon City Procedure in the Implementation of City Ordinances,” that aims to make it easier for both apprehending authorities and suspects to address violations and impose the corresponding penalties. The ordinance would also go a long way in protecting the rights of suspects and minimizing congestion in the city’s jails. Among these violations are drinking of liquor in public places, going around half-naked in public places, defying curfew hours for minors and smoking in public places, which have specific fines and penalties. Under the new ordinance, any person cited for any of these violations would be issued an Ordinance Violation Receipt (OVR). Any apprehended person who does not wish to contest the violation and willing to voluntarily pay the fine prior to the filing of formal complaint will be allowed to pay with the city treasurer or in the barangay (village) where he/she was apprehended. The violator will then present the OVR to the apprehending officer who shall attach a certified true copy of the receipt together with the documents of the case. Then case will be considered closed.