Belmonte vows to close spas with 'extra services'

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Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte has vowed to close down all massage parlors and spas that offer "extra services" or those providing sexual favors in exchange for extra cash to their customers in Quezon City.

Belmonte pledged that no stone would be left unturned, citing that unlawful massage parlors and spas operating through social media will be shut down.

Last Friday, Belmonte, together with the Business Permit and Licensing Department and the Quezon City Police District, raided Dragon Spa on E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave. where they rescued four women aged 27– to 36-years-old.

Before the raid, the QCPD conducted intelligence operation by booking online. Upon confirmation, Belmonte spearheaded the raid where they discovered additional evidence proving the spa's illegal operation.

"This is the first of our operations. We saw their menu where it is very clear that there are things going on that should not be going on and that there are clear violations," said Belmonte.

Belmonte ordered the closure of the establishment for operating without a business permit since 2018 and for violating Sec 4e of Republic Act 10364 or the Expanded Anti-Trafficking in relation to Republic Act 10675 or the Cybercrime Prevention Act of 2012.

She explained that authorities are in the process of identifying the massage parlor's owner to enable them to file appropriate charges.

Belmonte issued the crackdown order after receiving reports about several Quezon City-based massage parlors offering "extra services" to customers through social media.