

BELMONTE CLOSES SPA OFFERING 'EXTRA SERVICES' ONLINE

No more 'happy endings'

The QC mayor ordered the closure of the establishment for lack of business permit

By **Alvin Murcia**

Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte on Saturday ordered a more intensified crackdown against spas and massage parlors operating throughout the city that offer "extra service" to customers via social media.

Operatives from the Business Permit and

Licensing Department (BPLD) and the Quezon City Police District (QCPD) joined Belmonte as the team raided an illegal massage parlor disguised as a spa — the first in her crackdown on such establishments in the city.

Based on reports, Belmonte joined the raiding team in closing down the establishment Dragon Spa in E. Rodriguez — and rescued four

girls with ages ranging from 27 to 36 years old in the process.

Police said that an intelligence operation was conducted by the by booking online and 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," Belmonte said.

The mayor ordered the closure of the

establishment for operating without a business permit since 2018 and for violating Section 4e of Republic Act 10964 or the Expanded Anti-Trafficking in relation to Republic Act 10675 or the Cybercrime Prevention Act of 2012.

She added that authorities are in the process of identifying the massage parlor's owner so they can file appropriate charges.

The crackdown was ordered after receiving reports about several QC-based massage parlors offering "extra service" to customers through social media and in coordination with the

QCPD, the BPLD — headed by Ma. Margarita Santos — discovered around 100 spas in Quezon City offering their services via social media.

She said they will continue to work with Gen. Ronnie Montefijo of the QCPD to continue to stake out the 99 other spa establishments to make sure that there are no more establishments such as this operating in Quezon City.

The City's Social Services Development Department, meantime, would extend needed assistance to the rescued women.