

## Belmonte warns bribe-takers

The driver placed P200 bill into the hand of the enforcer and told him to 'fix' the matter

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Traffic enforcers were warned by Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte to shun taking bribes from motorists or face dire consequences, and not to let their names, reputations and the image of the city be tainted by just a small amount of money.



The call was made by Belmonte after she lauded a traffic enforcer of the Quezon City Task Force Traffic and Transport Management (TFTTM) for arresting a motorist who offered a P200 bribe after he was ticketed for illegal parking.

The motorist, whose name has been withheld, is now facing charges for violation of City Ordinance SP1444 and Article 212 of the Revised Penal Code.

In his sworn complaint, traffic enforcer Roberto Francisco said the TFTTM, led by traffic czar Atty. Ariel Inton, was conducting clearing operations along Katipunan Avenue when he noticed the suspect's van parked on the sidewalk.

Francisco then informed the suspect of his violation, asked for his license and issued him a ticket. The traffic enforcer handed the ticket to the motorist, who then placed P200 in his hand.

He claimed he was surprised when he saw money was being inserted between the traffic citation ticket and his palm as the motorist told him to "fix" the matter.

He immediately apprehended the suspect and informed Inton about the incident. The suspect was brought to the Anonas Police Station 9 where he was formally charged.

Belmonte lauded Francisco for his honesty in the performance of duty amid the temptation, saying his act should be emulated by all public servants

For his part, Inton also warned motorists that they will suffer the same fate if they try to bribe his men to escape accountability.

"Let this serve as a warning to other motorists if they attempt to bribe our traffic enforcers in the city," said Inton.