

- Mayor, Legal Department, Bids and Awards Committee

Joy warns QC suppliers over fake, inferior goods

By Rio N. Araja

QUEZON City Mayor Joy Belmonte on Sunday warned suppliers and distributors of goods for the city government to stop their practice of delivering counterfeit products, fake merchandise, and goods of inferior quality.

She reacted to reports that fake commodities were delivered by the suppliers and distributors of goods, subsequently accepted by the end-users, and then paid for by the city government.

Recently, the mayor received 1,100 pairs of counterfeit branded rubber shoes distributed to local athletes who would represent the city in various national sporting events.

If proven true, Belmonte ordered the city legal office to initiate legal action

against those who were involved and conspired to commit the offenses violative of the Consumer Protection Act or Republic Act 7394, RA 9184 or the Procurement Act, and other related laws.

The mayor instructed the procurement department, particularly the bids and awards committee through its technical working group, to conduct the necessary due diligence in their evaluation and selection of winning bidders to avoid the award of contracts pertaining

to purchases of goods to unscrupulous suppliers and distributors.

Belmonte ordered the recall of the counterfeit shoes and committed to replace them before March 14, when local athletes are scheduled to attend the National Festival of Talents in Isabela.

The athletes are also set to participate in the Palarong Pambansa to be held from May 1 to 9 in Marikina City.

Belmonte instructed other concerned offices to investigate allegations that the delivery of fake commodities was a common practice in the past city administration.

Meanwhile, Belmonte also vowed to provide security of land tenure for around 10,000 informal settler families by 2022 under the city's three-year local shelter plan.