

QC cracks down on cheating vendors

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The Quezon City Market Development and Administration Department (MDAD) has issued hundreds of notices of violation to vendors in various public and private markets for overpricing and fraudulent weighing scales even as the enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) is being implemented in Metro Manila until 15 May. Procorpio Lipana, MDAD head, said a total of 211 notices for 249 infractions from 17 March to 28 April 2020 were reported. Of the cases, 109 concerned fraudulent scales and 90 were for overpricing.



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"We give vendors a chance to explain their pricing, because prices now are affected due to supply issues. If proven to be overpricing, they will need to pay the

corresponding penalty when they renew their business permit," Lipana said. "The MDAD also confiscates fraudulent weighing scales and have them recalibrated, but vendors have to pay the penalty as well," he added.

The city government recently installed closed-circuit television cameras in different public and private markets to monitor if social distancing is strictly followed to prevent the spread of coronavirus disease.

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The QC local government has ordered MDAD to conduct regular inspections to guard against overpricing amid the ECQ. Four teams go around to various markets in the city's six districts to monitor violations and ensure social distancing.

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