

## Funeral wakes at home still not allowed

Daily Tribune (Philippines) · 17 Dec 2020 · A7 · BY PAULA ANTOLIN @tribunephil\_phau

The Quezon City local government has reiterated its prohibition against the holding of wakes at residences, and that they must only be conducted at funeral parlors.

Ricky Corpuz, Barangay Community Relations Department head, issued the reminder after he received information that some barangays are allowing the holding of wakes at the homes of the deceased.

“We remind the family of the deceased that wakes are strictly allowed only in funeral parlors and not at home. It hasn’t changed since the enhanced community quarantine days,” Corpuz said.

He said Ordinance SP- 2907, S- 2000, the prohibition on the holding of wakes at home remains in effect and is being strictly enforced to avoid mass gatherings and control the spread of the coronavirus.

Under this measure, a wake will be allowed only if the deceased is Covid- 19 negative, but for only two days, and should be at a funeral parlor. Only immediate family members are allowed to attend the burial or cremation.

An alternative setup is to hold the wake in community mortuaries in barangays or chapels, subject to the same protocols.

The city has warned barangay officials and personnel of funeral homes they could be penalized with fines or imprisonment for violating the ordinance.

QC-based funeral parlors that violate the ordinance will be fined P5,000 per violation and a subsequent offense would mean the revocation of their business permit.

The ordinance also penalizes violators with a fine of P5,000 and/or imprisonment of not more than six months at the discretion of the court.

Violators can also face other charges under Republic

Act 11332, or the Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act.