QC cracks down on protocols violators

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THE Quezon City Department of Public Order and Safety (DPOS) in a two-day operation has apprehended 3,T71 health protocols violators, as the city grapples with the rising number of Covid-19 cases.

The DPOS said 2,138 were apprehended for not wearing a face mask in public while 1, 333 were rounded up for violating the 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew hours.

DPOS chief Elmo San Diego said the operation was carried out by the Task Force on Transport and Traffic Management, Task Force Disiplina and the Quezon City Police Department.

The violators were issued ordinance violation receipts. They were given five days to pay their respective fines. "Failure to do so would resort to filing of charges [against the offenders] before the City Prosecutor's Office and it will reflect on the violator's police clearance upon application," San Diego said.

Violators of health protocols will be fined P300, P500 and P1,000, for the first, second and third offenses, respectively. Violators of public safety hours, meanwhile, could face one-month imprisonment and/or a fine of P1,000 for the third offense.

In case the offender is a minor, the fine or punishment shall be imposed on the violator's parents or guardian. "We must be stricter this time because we cannot afford to let this Covid-19 spread more in the communities," San Diego said.