

## QC police deployed for rallies on Labor Day

The Manila Times · 1 May 2021 · A5 · ARLIE O. CALALO

ANTICIPATING unauthorized and lightning protest rallies from militant groups in time with the observance of Labor Day, the Quezon City government and the Quezon City Police District (QCPD) have agreed to deploy enough number of lawmen and traffic enforcers to keep order and observe safety and health protocols.

According to QCPD Director BGen. Antonio Yarra, the district headquarters will dispatch 1,758 policemen in several areas in the city.

The QCPD aims to secure possible areas where there may be threats and civil disturbances as well as implement health and safety protocols, he said.

“We will deploy additional police personnel to maintain peace and order in our city. We would also like to ask our residents to stay at home so we can avoid the spread of Covid-19,” the QCPD chief said.

Moreover, the city’s Task Force for Transport and Traffic Management will deploy around 300 traffic enforcers who have been also tasked to assist in maintaining social distancing and health protocols in community pantries, cash assistance payout and vaccination sites. Engelbert Apostol, head of the city’s Public Affairs and Information Services Department, told The Manila Times in a phone conversation they were anticipating lightning rallies.

“Our lawmen and traffic enforcers as well will also be out to monitor key places especially at University of the Philippines and Commission on Human Rights both in Diliman areas and were considered freedom parks,” Apostol said.

Asked if there were militant groups that sought for permits to hold rallies, Apostol said their deadline was last Wednesday but the city government did not receive any letter from them.

However, he said they were still expecting any groups to hold lightning rallies based on previous experiences from past Labor Day observances.