



Republic of the Philippines
QUEZON CITY COUNCIL

Quezon City
23rd City Council

PO23CC-159

51st Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP-**3536**, S-2026

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING DIGITAL SAFETY DESKS AND PROTECTION MECHANISMS FOR QUEZON CITY RESIDENTS AFFECTED BY DOXXING

Introduced by Councilor LUIGI D. PUMAREN

Co-Introduced by Councilors Tany Joe "TJ" L. Calalay, Bernard R. Herrera, Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D., Joseph P. Juico, Charm Ferrer, CPA, MPA, JD, Nicole "Nikki" V. Crisologo, Mikey F. Belmonte, Atty. Voltaire Godofredo "Bong" Liban III, Aly Medalla, Dave C. Valmocina, Ranulfo "Tatay Rannie" Z. Ludovica, Atty. Christoffer Allan "Tope" Liquigan, Albert Alvin "Chuckie" L. Antonio III, Wencerom Benedict C. Lagumbay, Luigi D. Pumaren, Atty. Vicente Belmonte Jr., Edgar "Egay" G. Yap, Nanette Castelo Daza, Imee Rillo, Atty. Jesus Miguel Suntay, Raquel S. Malañgen, Joseph Joe Visaya, Aiko Melendez, Alfred Vargas, MPA, Karl Edgar Castelo, Shaira "Shay" L. Liban, Ram V. Medalla, Maria Eleanor "Doc Ellie" R. Juan, O.D., Emmanuel Banjo A. Pilar, Kristine Alexia Matias, RN, Victor "Vic" D. Bernardo, Erwin Rey "Cocoy" A. Medina, and Jhon Angelli "Sami" C. Neri

WHEREAS, the 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines guarantees the right to privacy of communication and correspondence, and the State recognizes the fundamental human right of privacy while ensuring the free flow of information;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10173, otherwise known as the Data Privacy Act of 2012, protects the confidentiality of personal information in both government and private sectors;

WHEREAS, Quezon City Ordinance No. SP-3238, S-2023 operationalized the Data Privacy Act of 2012 and created the Data Privacy Committee;



WHEREAS, doxxing, as defined in the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, is the act of publicly identifying or publishing private information of an individual with malicious intent;

WHEREAS, in 2023, a fictitious Facebook account published personal and private information of two (2) members of the Cagayan de Oro Press Club, Inc., which posed a threat to their safety, as well as the safety of their families;

WHEREAS, the Monitoring of Cyber-related Crimes Report of the Department of Information and Communications Technology for 2023-2024 showed that in 2024, 1,452 complaints were filed involving online libel; 1,287 complaints for computer-related identity theft; and 326 complaints for anti-photo and video voyeurism;

WHEREAS, Doxxing poses a significant threat to the public order, safety, and psychological well-being of the residents of Quezon City;

WHEREAS, there is a need for a localized, swift administrative response to acts of unauthorized, malicious disclosure of personal information;

WHEREAS, protection mechanisms, such as immediate access to psychosocial and technical support, are essential in safeguarding the well-being of Quezon City residents affected by doxxing;

WHEREAS, the Local Government Code of 1991 grants the City Council the power to enact ordinances necessary to promote the general welfare, maintain peace and order, and enhance the social and moral well-being of its inhabitants.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. – This Ordinance shall be known as the “Digital Safety Desk Ordinance.”

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY. – It is hereby declared the policy of the Quezon City Government to protect the fundamental rights of its constituents, including the right to privacy, the right to safety and security, and the right to freedom of expression, while ensuring that said rights are not abused to harass, threaten, intimidate, or harm others through the unauthorized and malicious dissemination of personal information.



SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS. – For the purposes of this Ordinance, the following terms shall mean:

- a. *Affected Resident.* – Any resident of Quezon City who has been subjected to, or is at imminent risk of being subjected to, an act of doxxing as defined herein, and who seeks assistance under this Ordinance;
- b. *Digital Safety Desk Officer.* – A duly designated and trained City employee assigned to operate a Digital Safety Desk, responsible for receiving complaints, providing or coordinating the delivery of protection mechanisms, and maintaining records in accordance with this Ordinance and applicable data privacy laws;
- c. *Doxxing.* – The act of intentionally, maliciously, and publicly broadcasting or publishing private or identifying information about an individual or entity, through the use of online or social media platforms, without their consent, with the intent to harass, threaten, intimidate, stalk, humiliate, incite violence, or cause substantial emotional distress or harm to the subject of the information;
- d. *Doxxing Incident.* – Any reported or confirmed act of doxxing to an Affected Resident within the territorial jurisdiction of Quezon City;
- e. *Personal Information.* – Any information, whether recorded in a material form or not, from which the identity of an individual is apparent or can be reasonably and directly ascertained by the entity holding the information, or when put together with other information would directly and certainly identify an individual. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - i. full legal name, alias, or nickname;
 - ii. residential address, school address, or office address;
 - iii. private telephone numbers, personal mobile numbers, or personal email addresses;
 - iv. private photographs, videos, or sound recordings not made public by the data subject;
 - v. information on immediate family members; and
 - vi. Sensitive Personal Information.



f. Sensitive Personal Information. – Refers to personal information:

- i. about an individual's race, ethnic origin, marital status, age, color, and religious, philosophical, or political affiliations;*
- ii. about an individual's health, education, genetic or sexual life, or to any proceeding for any offense committed or alleged to have been committed by such person, the disposal of such proceedings, or the sentence of any court in such proceedings;*
- iii. issued by government agencies peculiar to an individual which includes, but is not limited to, social security numbers, previous or current health records, licenses or its denials, suspension or revocation, and tax returns; and*
- iv. specifically established by an executive order or an act of Congress to be kept classified.*

SECTION 4. COVERAGE. – This Ordinance shall govern the establishment, operations, and data-processing activities of Quezon City offices implementing this Ordinance. Assistance under this Ordinance shall be available to Affected Residents, without prejudice to the jurisdiction of national government agencies and competent courts over the underlying acts or offenders.

SECTION 5. QUEZON CITY DIGITAL SAFETY DESK. – Each district within the territorial jurisdiction of Quezon City shall establish at least one (1) Digital Safety Desk, which shall serve as the primary coordinating center linking Affected Residents to the appropriate protection mechanisms.

Each Digital Safety Desk shall be staffed by at least one (1) Digital Safety Desk Officer who shall have received training on data privacy laws, cyber-related offenses, psychosocial first aid, and digital security measures, to be administered by the Quezon City Data Privacy Committee, in coordination with the Quezon City Information Technology Development Department, or any other relevant agencies or departments prior to assumption of duties.

The Digital Safety Desks, as personal information controllers of complainant data, shall comply with all applicable provisions of Republic Act No. 10173 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations. Information of Affected Residents shall be processed only for the purposes authorized under this Ordinance and shall not be disclosed to unauthorized third parties. It shall be retained only for the period necessary to accomplish its purpose or as required by applicable laws and regulations.



QC Helpline 122 shall be integrated and shall serve as the primary telecommunications and digital hotline of the Digital Safety Desk to ensure accessibility and immediate routing of reporting any incident of doxxing.

SECTION 6. PROTECTION MECHANISMS. – This Ordinance hereby establishes the following mechanisms for the protection and support against doxxing:

- a. **Psychosocial Support.** – Residents shall be afforded access to psychosocial counseling to address emotional distress or trauma arising from doxxing;
- b. **Technical Support.** – Residents shall be afforded assistance to:
 - i. review the resident's digital privacy settings to identify vulnerabilities; and
 - ii. provide technical guidance on the use of safeguards to prevent further unauthorized access or disclosure of Personal Information; and
- c. **Legal Liaison Services.** – The Digital Safety Desk shall provide legal liaison services to affected residents by facilitating referrals to the National Privacy Commission (NPC) for the formal investigation of doxxing complaints.

Upon a final determination by the NPC that a violation of the Data Privacy Act has occurred, and following the issuance of a formal recommendation certification to that effect, the Digital Safety Desk shall endorse the matter to the Department of Justice (DOJ) for the initiation of criminal proceedings and prosecution against the respondent.

SECTION 7. EXCEPTIONS. – This Ordinance shall not apply to the publication or dissemination of personal information when such acts are performed in good faith and fall under any of the following categories:

- a. **Journalistic Activities.** – Disclosures made by members of the press or individuals engaged in bona fide news gathering for the purpose of informing the public on matters of general interest, provided such activities adhere to established ethical standards of journalism;



- b. *Whistleblowing.* – The disclosure of information by an individual who reasonably believes that the information evidences a violation of law, rule or regulation, or manifests gross mismanagement, a gross waste of funds, an abuse of authority, or a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety;
- c. *Lawful Public Interest Disclosures.* – The sharing of information that is deemed essential to the public interest, including but not limited to, matters of public health, consumer protection, or the transparency of public officials in their official capacity;
- d. *Reporting of Misconduct.* – The reporting of suspected criminal activity or professional misconduct to appropriate law enforcement agencies, regulatory bodies, or any government entity tasked with oversight; and
- e. *Court-Ordered Disclosures.* – Any disclosure of personal information mandated by a valid subpoena, warrant, or an order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.

SECTION 8. PARTNERSHIPS AND SUPPORT SERVICES. – The Quezon City Government may enter into partnership agreements with other national government agencies to provide support and technical expertise.

SECTION 9. IMPLEMENTING AGENCY. – The Public Affairs and Information Services Department shall be the lead implementing agency of this Ordinance, in coordination with the Quezon City Data Privacy Committee, the City Legal Department, the Quezon City Information Technology Development Department, and other relevant City departments and offices.

SECTION 10. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Ordinance, the Public Affairs and Information Services Department, in coordination with the Quezon City Data Privacy Committee, the City Legal Department, the Quezon City Information Technology Development Department, and other relevant City departments and offices, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Ordinance.

SECTION 11. NON-EXCLUSIVITY OF REMEDIES. – The institution of a report or complaint under this Ordinance shall be without prejudice to the right of the aggrieved person or persons to seek independent judicial redress.

SECTION 12. SAVINGS CLAUSE. – Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed to limit or diminish the authority of national government agencies to impose penalties, sanctions, or administrative actions as provided by law.



SECTION 13. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. – If any provision or part of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions or parts not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

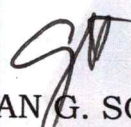
SECTION 14. REPEALING CLAUSE. – All ordinances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 15. EFFECTIVITY. – This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in a newspaper of general circulation and its posting in two (2) conspicuous places within Quezon City.

ENACTED: June 8, 2026.

CERTIFICATION

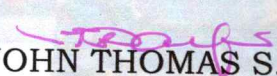
This is to certify that this Ordinance was ENACTED by the City Council on Second Reading on June 8, 2026, was Reverted to Second Reading on July 13, 2026, and was PASSED on Third/Final Reading on July 16, 2026.


GIAN G. SOTTO
City Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

APPROVED: AUG 07 2026


MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE
City Mayor

ATTESTED:


ATTY. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS, III
City Government Department Head III
(Secretary to the Sanggunian)

