

Belmonte, Mathay to contest top QC post

BY JOVE MOYA ON OCTOBER 12, 2018

Quezon City Vice Mayor Ma. Josefina “Joy” Belmonte on Thursday filed her Certificate of Candidacy for mayor along with her running mate, District 3 Councilor Gian Sotto.

Belmonte and Sotto will run under the Serbisyo sa Bayan Party (SBP).



NEW TANDEM Senate President Vicente Sotto 3rd (left) and former House Speaker Feliciano Belmonte Jr. (right) raise the hands of Quezon City Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte (2nd right) and Councilor Gian Sotto (2nd left), after filing their certificates of candidacy. PHOTO BY RUY L. MARTINEZ

Belmonte is the daughter of former QC mayor and incumbent District 4 Rep. Feliciano “Sonny” Belmonte Jr. Sotto is the son of Senate President Vicente “Tito” Sotto 3rd.

“Quezon City is a rich city because it has the revenue, the money, but there are still so many poor residents living here. The next stage of the city’s progress is bringing that wealth down to the poorest sectors,” Belmonte told reporters.

After nine years in government, Belmonte prides herself for having been able to establish the **Quezon City Anti-Drug Abuse Advisory Council (QC-ADAAC)**.

Belmonte and Sotto will face the tandem of former QC congressman Chuck Mathay and District 2 Councilor and actor Roderick Paulate.

Paulate filed his CoC for the position of vice mayor despite facing graft and falsification charges at the Office of the Ombudsman.

In April, the Ombudsman charged Paulate with graft and falsification for allegedly hiring “fictitious job contractors” in 2010.

“Legally speaking, I can run. They cannot use the case to stop anybody who wants to serve the people,” Paulate told the reporters.

He said that he is not the only candidate facing charges related to graft.

“If you look at the higher level, there are lots of politicians there who also run despite having cases,” Paulate added.

Mathay and Paulate will run under the Katipunan ng Demokratikong Pilipino party.