

Webster's political life turning to dust

By Patricia Scott
and Peter Weiss

Former Hudson County Freeholder Elnardo Webster was arraigned in Central Judicial Processing court yesterday on charges that he snorted cocaine out of a rolled-up \$1 bill while sitting in his parked car.

No matter what the eventual outcome of the case against him, Webster's arrest this week on drug charges probably puts to rest any plans for a political comeback.

Bail for Webster, 41, who was arrested at 6:40 p.m. on Thursday at Liberty State Park by State Ranger William Laing, was continued yesterday in CJP at \$300 cash. The bail had been set late Thursday night when Webster was released on his own recognizance.

A somber-looking Webster wearing a grey flannel suit appeared at the CJP hearing yesterday with his attorney Marvin Braker, but had no comment about the incident.

His lawyer also declined to comment and said no statement will be forthcoming.

Webster, who since 1987 has been employed by the state Department of Corrections as the assistant director of recreational activities, will have a job status hearing next week



Journal staff photo

Attorney Marvin Braker, left, represents Donald Brown, center, and Elnardo Webster, right, at their arraignment in Jersey City yesterday on drug-related charges.

before DOC officials. DOC Spokeswoman Patricia Mulcahy said he will not be suspended automatically because

of the cocaine possession arrest. She said the arrest record and subsequent processing paperwork will be reviewed at

the DOC hearing before a decision is made concerning his

See WEBSTER — Page 4.