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## ACCUSED KILLER, WITNESS WANT TO WED

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After six years of interviews, paperwork, cross-country searches and -- finally -- an arrest, Dade Circuit Court Case No. 81-19766 is burdened by one small fact: The state's key witness wants to get married. To the defendant -- an accused murderer.

"She says she's in love," said Manny **Casabielle**, defending Anthony Buchanan, 33, on first-degree murder charges.

"I'm not sure what to make of this," said prosecutor Don Horn, who is relying on Buchanan's fiancée to make his case.

We'll see, said Judge Ellen Morphonios, who is scheduled to try Buchanan next month.

**Casabielle** asked the judge Friday to allow his client to marry Darlene Earles, the defendant's on-again, off-again girlfriend. Morphonios said maybe, but there might be a conflict.

Earles, 32, is the woman who first tipped police about Buchanan five years ago.

The way Earles tells it, she and Buchanan enjoyed a lunch of fresh snapper one Saturday afternoon, then went to a Carol City apartment where she saw him fire three quick shots into Leroy Black after an argument about money.

Police put out a warrant for Buchanan's arrest. Nothing happened until last October, when he was picked up at Miami International Airport on unrelated drug charges. Police matched him to Earles' description.

About the same time, Earles, who had been living in Maryland, moved back to Miami. She visited her old boyfriend in jail. The rest is history.

"He was my first love, and you do not get over your first love," she said in a deposition. "It's hard for me to completely trust him again, but . . . when I get next to him I do what he says.

"It's chemistry."

Prosecutor Horn would not reveal what trouble Earles' new attitude might cause him, but court records indicate it could be a lot. Now that she is in love again, the star witness told lawyers, she would rather not testify against her intended.

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