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**HEADLINE:** ANOTHER KAPLAN RUNS  
FOR COMMISSION: BRUCE'S WIFE

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## **BODY:**

Running for Bruce Kaplan's vacant seat on the Miami-Dade Commission: Janitza Torres Kaplan -- Bruce's wife.

Janitza, 34, says she's running on a platform of public safety, equal rights -- and anti-corruption. She vows she's no straw-woman for her hubby, who resigned in March to resolve a criminal investigation into his personal finances. She works in the Miami office of the governor of Puerto Rico.

"I'm my own person -- always have been." She says she's thick-skinned enough to handle derisive remarks from folks who say she's a spousal stand-in. "I personally feel that what happened to Bruce is disgusting, unfair, and a political vendetta."

Kaplan pleaded no contest to a misdemeanor charge of falsifying documents related to a mortgage, and as part of his sentence agreed to forfeit his seat.

It wasn't a vendetta, says public corruption

prosecutor Joe Centorino. "A weak excuse for wrongdoing." He declined to comment on Janitza's candidacy.

"We don't have any reason to shy away from politics. And I won't be intimidated," says Janitza.

Bruce says he tried to talk her out of running. He says he'll campaign, but won't call the shots. "I've had enough of politics."

Others with designs on the seat: state Rep. Bruno Barreiro, former Kaplan aide Charles Safdie, and businessman Bob Skidell. Insiders say Barreiro has the edge, but Janitza is a viable candidate with name recognition, fund-raising ability and access to Kaplan's extensive political organization.

The special election is June 2.

Where's the fire?

A Miami attorney is facing a felony charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon -- his black Mercedes-Benz. Allegedly, he mowed down a fireman directing traffic at a busy Coconut Grove intersection.

Peter Bianchi, 40, ignored veteran firefighter Charles Dothard, who was stopping cars so Engine 8, a 28-foot truck, could back into the Oak Avenue station behind Streets of Mayfair, police say. It happened early Sunday, when the Grove was still jumping at 2:40 a.m.

Dothard, 47, says he held out both hands to stop Bianchi's car, and continued to guide the \$300,000 pumper into the station house. Suddenly, firefighter Jack Chambers and Lt. Louis Kickasola screamed. "I turned around and, boom, he hit me," Dothard says. "I was stunned." He was not seriously injured.

From Officer Ruben Lameira's arrest report: "Victim [was] struck in the legs, causing his knees to buckle and lose his balance . . . Defendant became belligerent and refused to give any . . . information."

Bianchi, who practices civil law, declined comment. He referred questions to his attorney, Arturo Alvarez. "No way could he commit an aggravated assault on anyone, much less a fireman," says Alvarez. "He's the most easygoing, affable human being you'd ever encounter."

Bianchi was released from jail on \$7,500 bond. Arraignment is June 8 before Circuit Judge Alex Ferrer.

Moving, must sell!

On the market: Knight Ridder CEO Tony Ridder's tony home on Sunset Island II in Miami Beach. Asking price: \$2.7 million.

Ridder, 57, and wife Connie, 57, a Holland & Knight lawyer, are moving to northern California because he's relocating headquarters from Miami to San Jose. The 7,000-square foot house on the water has four bedrooms plus two for staff, 8-1/2 baths, a glass-enclosed media room with "tree trunk" columns topped with hand-carved reproductions of ancient Egyptian birds, a pool, cabana and boat dock. Taxes are \$36,350 a year.

Ridder, who bought the place in '86 for \$1.1 million, redid the house late last year. Heading the renovation: daughter Katie, 36, an interior designer, and her husband, Manhattan architect Peter Pennoyer, 41.

Jill Hertzberg and Jill Eber of Wimbish-Riteway have the listing. The Ridders just bought a Bermuda-style home with a mountain view and a fancy garden on four

acres in Woodside, Calif. That's halfway between San Jose and San Francisco, where Connie will work out of a Holland & Knight office.

Ridder won't keep a place in South Florida. Can't afford to, he says. "Everybody thinks I've got more money than I really do."

Native son

Manhattan magazine portrait photographer Timothy Greenfield-Sanders, son of Miami arts visionary Ruth Greenfield, is a "well-known charmer whose golden Rolodex is filled with celebrity subjects who often become his friends," writes New York magazine.

Greenfield-Sanders, 46, who shoots for Time, Newsweek, Vanity Fair, Life, Vogue and Fortune, just did Lou Reed: Rock and Roll Heart, a documentary that aired on public television. Greenfield-Sanders explains his hyphenated surname. He is married to Karin Sanders, daughter of Joop Sanders, the Abstract Expressionist painter. "We just merged our names."

Karin, a lawyer, gave up her practice to work on the film with him, he says. Greenfield-Sanders, a Ransom Everglades grad, credits his mom and late father, Arnold, for encouraging him in the arts. Ruth, an accomplished pianist, founded the lunchtime Lively Arts series. Dad was a lawyer who loved to paint. "At one point, we had three grand pianos in our house."

Greenfield says she's learned plenty from her son. "He introduced me to the Grateful Dead, Mothers of Invention, and now Lou Reed -- and I'm a Mozart type."

**NOTES: TALK OF OUR TOWN**