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11th of February 2024

Dear Graduate and Recruitment Manager at Byrne Wallace LLP,

I am pursuing an Internship with Byrne Wallace LLP because it allows me to combine my legal ambition with my interest in business and current affairs, of which I have built over years through activities such as: Representing Thailand in Model UN, participating in Moot Court, listening to podcasts – Specifically ‘Wake up to the Money and more recently, reading The Journal and the Irish Independent, and books such as ‘The Psychology of Money.’

Byrne Wallace’s summer internship is appealing to me as I have wide interests ranging from general transactions, real estate law as well as artificial intelligence.

Having received 66% in property law and 70% in company law last semester, the commercial real estate department interests me. My interest was peaked by following the negative trends the pandemic particularly had on the sector. I followed this interest by attending ‘The Future of Cities’ where Justin Oldale discussed how regardless of a sharper move towards online shopping, universities are looking to utilize such commercial places causing an increase in demand. Having advised on multiple cases, advising AIB Bank in relation to its letting of its HQ buildings on Molesworth Street, it is clear an internship at your firm would be invaluable. I was equally impressed to learn that Byrne Wallace ranks Tier one according to Legal 500 for the commercial Real Estate sector meaning I would be able to learn from leading lawyers in the practice area.

I believe I have the key attributes and knowledge to become a dedicated Family Lawyer, specializing in Child Law as I am understanding, received 76% in a Family Law module last semester and am currently completing an extra Child Law module at university. I would also understand the importance of being empathetic without becoming emotionally involved in a child’s life. I understand Family Law is a difficult area of law, it is emotional for clients as they are often at their most vulnerable, people are frustrated with delays and costs, and no-one ever really wins. But at the end of the day, I would hope I could say to myself that I helped a person (even if it was only in a small way) and that is what would matter to me and would make it all worth it.

I am also particularly interested in the workings of one of your consultants, Victor Timon, particularly her work in relation to Artificial Intelligence. After attending his speech online titled 'AI, AI…Oh! Artificial Intelligence,' he thoroughly clarified to me the legal and ethical challenges stemming from the game-changing technology that is AI. Studying Artificial Intelligence and Legal Disruption at The University of Copenhagen, I completed a research project (which I received 83% in) on the intersection between the use of AI and healthcare. The research project focused on the legality and social perception of the use of AI as a tool for medical diagnosis when assessing an individual's eligibility to die through euthanasia. Conducting a study in Ireland, the findings confirmed that despite the forthcoming EU Artificial Intelligence Act, the use of AI in euthanasia decisions are constrained by public apprehension and legal ambiguity. I aspire to work on these complex, top-level matters in my career and nowhere is better for this than Byrne Wallace LLP.

From assisting a trainee at Shannon & O’ Connor Solicitors, I know the importance of understanding a client's competitors and accumulation strategy before offering advice and how paramount it is being powerfully principled to have respect and to value the skills and differences that each staff member brings into the workspace. As an intern, I would look forward to learning about the individual and commercial needs of my clients when considering bespoke legal and business solutions within the wider commercial environment. Placing distinct focus on providing a personalized client service, I strongly believe that Byrne Wallace is the firm which will facilitate a client orientated career.

I am proudly a member of the UCC hockey club and have been appointed as the Public Relations Officer for the for the International Society. This was my first committee role involving potentially securing a sponsorship with large organizations and was quite an ambitious goal. It was initially challenging as I frequently reached out to selected targeted organizations who requested that I draft my proposal and given the final year exam pressures I was facing, it was often a struggle to find a balance between all these prevailing demands. I received many rejections to my proposals after spending countless hours on them. However, by changing my outreach approach and revising the way I drafted the proposals, I managed to secure a sponsorship from the Marina Market. I believe this experience will be highly advantageous to me as I pursue an internship at your firm as it highlights my ability to be organised and efficient, while also maintaining a strong commitment to everything I was involved in. This also had a personal impact as I anticipated the difference the sponsorships would make to the members of the society, exceeded their expectations and as a result the society has upheld a strong reputation, resonating to your core value of corporate social responsibility. As a result of this, the members have benefited from the enhanced social events which was immensely satisfying for me to see.

Having hosted two coffee mornings this year in aid of the Marymount Hospice and donated multiple old toys and clothes to the Food Cloud Cork Hub, it has enriched my life, familiarized me with my community, and connected me to people and ideas that will positively impact my perspective for the rest of my life. Having researched Byrne Wallace, what also attracted me to the company was its strong desire and dedication to aid charities, such as partaking in an annual Clobber event on International Women’s Day, in aid of Dress for Success or hosting a Bake Off in aid of Shine a Light Focus Ireland, clearly boosting morale between employees as well as giving back to the Dublin community through your day-to-day business.

Aside from sports, my greatest passion is learning languages. Having attended a German language school for three months and taking French as an extra module at university in first year, I look forward to an intellectually stimulating internship and would be determined to deliver for my colleagues. As an intern, I am attracted to the prospect of constant critique and review as it would enhance my personal skill set and encourage continuous reflection. My ambition to go beyond expectation and dedication at all times will ensure that I continually strive to achieve excellence at Byrne Wallace, for the firm, my team, and my clients.

Thank you for your time. I would be extremely grateful to be considered for an interview for your summer internship programme, and an opportunity to share more about my experience and passion for the law in the future.

Kind regards,

Aisling Cantwell.