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**ByrneWallace LLP**

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**Internship Programme Application 2023**

Dear Ms McManus,

I would like to apply for a position on the 2023 Summer Internship Programme. I am currently a Legal Assistant on the Health & Prosecutions Team with Mason Hayes & Curran LLP where I have worked since April 2021. I am assigned primarily to High Court litigation matters on the Minors List. . Having gained an insight into the role of interns and trainees from my current role, I confident I would make a good addition to the ByrneWallace Summer Internship Programme.

Throughout my time in MHC, I have assisted intelligent and dedicated solicitors and support staff, and this has shown me the ethos of good legal practice.

I am drawn to the ByrneWallace Summer Internship Programme as I feel that my skill set is an excellent match for the firm's needs. Byrne Wallace’s thriving Litigation, Employment and Health and Social Care Departments are particularly intriguing to me given my experience.

A piece published by Ms Louise Carley in June 2021 attracted me to the work of your firm. The piece outlined the changes in the law surrounding the reporting and publication of the names of children who were victims of murder under the 2001 Act. ByrneWallace’s focus on these complex and developing areas of law gave me a keen interest in the firm’s practice areas.

Learning of the expertise the firm has on data protection and GDPR from Sinéad Kearney SC’s publication on the *Birth Information and Tracing Act 2022* sparked interest in me, as the ever-expanding law of data governance is an area of law which appeals to me. This summer I completed a data request for the *Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth*. This involved accounting for each child’s time under the Child and Family Agency’s Special Care programme and the patterns of re-admission or aging out of care for over 200 children.

I am a graduate of National University of Ireland, Galway (now known as the *University of Galway*), and over the course of my four years there I covered a wide breadth of law areas as outlined in my C.V. My studies in sociology and politics gave me a strong base to understand the law . Since joining MHC, I have gained practical legal skills and knowledge particularly within the area of litigation. Focusing mainly on child and family law has been challenging but rewarding work. Our clients have regularly reported positive feedback of my work and professional character. Overall, this experience has given me confidence in my legal competency and I am excited to be to pursue my goal of qualifying as a solicitor.

I spend my free time studying for the Law Society’s F.E.1 examinations, and the remainder volunteering with children’s organisations. I do on-call night shifts for the Accompaniment Support Service for Children also including preparing rotas for the Galway unit. The GAA is a large part of my family life, and I am also involved in the under 6’s football coaching.

Both my academic achievement and work experience have stood to me greatly. I have maintained employment throughout my school and college life which has taught me time management and the importance of consistent hard work to meet goals. I believe this experience has set me up to be a successful solicitor, who understands the importance of client relationships and diligent legal practice.

Thank you kindly for your time in processing my application. I would be delighted to discuss this application further, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Jessica Hession