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To whom it may concern,

I'm applying for the 2023 Byrne & Wallace summer internship programme, having previously heard it about when I was partaking in 3 weeks work experience in the Firm's Corporate Department in July 2022.

I am a final year UCD BCL student who will graduate in 2023. In my spare time I quite enjoy swimming, hill-walking and reading.

I believe the internship in Byrne & Wallace would provide an impressive and consolidated foundation for a future legal career as a solicitor and would ensure a tangible engagement with the real-world of law. Byrne & Wallace's varied top-tier awards indicate the prominence and professional expertise of the Firm.

During my time in the Firm last summer I was highly impressed by the collegiality and approachability of everyone that I worked with. These are added factors that motivated me to apply for the summer internship.

A career in a commercial law firm such as Byrne & Wallace appeals to me on account of how it rewards commitment, intellectual rigor and curiosity regarding a dynamic legal landscape. The law is something which is never set in stone. It's the challenge to fashion comprehensive advice for a client in a manner which can be easily understood by them, while keeping abreast of any changes in the legal arena, which makes a career in law appealing and exciting to me.

This combination of creative problem resolution, maintaining commercial awareness and working as a team consolidates my desire for a career in law. A commercial law firm puts one at the centre of the above and allows direct engagement with any legal developments, which could impact a client's interests. Being in a commercial law firm also allows one to be at the forefront of fashioning substantive and well-reasoned legal advice for high-profile clients. The need to continually keep a finger on the pulse of the commercial field also ensures that it's a career which rewards adaptability.

I also note that Byrne & Wallace has Health and Technology practice areas, both arenas of law of particular appeal to me. My interest in these areas was stimulated by my experiences working in a medical clinic, my legal studies in UCD and through partaking in three week's legal work experience in Byrne & Wallace's Corporate Department (Partner Zelda Deasy). This involved a focus on research on data protection compliance as per, but not limited to, the EU Digital Services Act and GDPR in addition to familiarising myself with medico-legal components such as the EU Clinical Trials

Regulation.

A concept I developed with the Oncology Department of the Beaumont RCSI Cancer Centre relating to capacity and consent to systemic anti-cancer therapy was accepted for an oral presentation and presented at the 2022 Annual Meeting of the European Society of Medical Oncology / European Oncology Nursing Society.

I've also received a US National Institute of Health (NIH) Clinical Trials Network Certificate of Completion in recognition of demonstrated knowledge of areas such as informed consent, confidentiality & privacy in addition to documentation & record-keeping.

Some of my key personal skills include conscientiousness, taking initiative, attention to detail as well as intellectual rigour. I can combine working as a team member with the capacity for independent research. The above attributes are exemplified by my position as secretary of the UCD Newman Society and university group projects in addition to my past awards for essay competitions and past legal work experience focusing on legal research. The UCD Set for Success Skills Programme for Law Students, which I completed last year, emphasised how my skills on these fronts could be put into practice through workshops on commercial awareness, networking and creative problem solving.

My role as secretary of the UCD Newman Society committee also put in mind how differences in approach can arise among a team and how it's important to ensure that the various outlooks of a group are taken into consideration before arriving at a decision. Furthermore it has reminded me that there may be instances where individuals' views are at odds, but a team still has to arrive at a decision together. Keeping these elements in mind would no doubt be of use when pursuing a career as a solicitor.

I believe Byrne & Wallace is a place where someone with my traits could thrive and offer much to the firm.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Your sincerely,

Maitiú Breathnach.