Gráinne McManus - Human Resources,

Byrne Wallace LLP,

88 Harcourt Street,

St Kevin’s,

Dublin 2,

D02 DK18

Dear Ms. McManus,

My name is Niamh McDermott, and I am a penultimate 2nd year BCL Law student in University College Cork, having completed two years of the BCL Law and Irish degree. I am writing to you in order to express my interest in a place in the Byrne Wallace Summer Internship 2023. Studying a dual discipline for two years has allowed me to study the law through both the English and Irish language, which is an ambitious task for a non-fluent speaker, a quality which is strongly appreciated at Byrne Wallace.

There are a number of reasons why the Summer Internship Programme at Byrne Wallace is my top choice. This summer I hope to gain valuable and real-life experience in law. Byrne Wallace provides this opportunity to their interns by giving them an opportunity to learn, whilst ensuring that the internship is so much more than a general work experience programme. My objective of doing an internship is to understand what a career in law entails, and that is exactly what Byrne Wallace offers. I also admire the fact that the internship includes a social element and that the firm really invests in its people. The promotion of good employee relations and a healthy work environment by Byrne Wallace is second to none.

As one of Ireland’s largest full-service law firms, there are a number of factors that set Byrne Wallace apart. Byrne Wallace has an impressive award-winning Litigation and Dispute Resolution team, being one of the largest litigation teams in Ireland dedicated to specialist IP disputes, personal injury litigation and media disputes. As a student, the opportunity to work with a firm dedicated to being at the forefront of developing trends in law is inspiring. However, what impresses me the most about Byrne Wallace is the commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility. As the Recording Secretary of the UCC Law Society 93rd Session, I am immensely proud of our Diversity and Inclusion sector. I have been fortunate to take part in a World Day of the Deaf sign language video, as well as contributing to our Period Poverty campaign and Christmas Toy Drive in aid of Direct Provision Centers in Cork. A dedication to D&I is something that I hope becomes a core value of our law society, so it is uplifting to see Byrne Wallace has undertaken this via Corporate Social Responsibility.

During my time in UCC, I have balanced a job, my studies, and contributing to university life. Having undertaken a QQI Level 5 in Pre-University Law, I hold an in-depth awareness of a variety of legal affairs. Through my summer internship in AIB in the Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorism Department, I have had the opportunity to encounter commercial banking issues and learn how to resolve or avoid them. Working as a legal researcher with IRLII has given me experience in compiling research and presenting it in a concise manner whilst contributing to the Free Access to Law Movement (FALM). Through this, I have developed the necessary broad range of acumen that would allow me to add value to the firm. This year will mark my second year as Executive General Coordinator for the Intervarsity Law Summit, a student-led organisation and event. This role has provided me with the necessary tools to organise such a large-scale legal event as a member of a well-run team, which will only flourish and prosper in years to come. My plans for my future are to graduate in 2024, where I will sit my FE-1 exams to begin my Training Contract in 2025, and hopefully, Byrne Wallace will play an important role in this journey.

I am certain that the skills and knowledge I can bring to Byrne Wallace would benefit the firm and that it is a working environment in which I can thrive and develop. Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Niamh McDermott