**ORLA TAAFFE**

Enthusiastic final year Law student seeking to gain practical experience in a commercial law firm with the aim to progress to trainee solicitor

23 Castleway,

Mobile: 086-6678480

[E-Mail: taaffeo@tcd.ie](mailto:orla.taaffe@icloud.com)

Kinsealy Lane,

Malahide,

Co. Dublin.

K36R259

**SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES**

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| --- | --- |
| * 4th year Law student, Trinity College Dublin | * Professional demeanour |
| * Strong collaboration and communication skills | * Highly organised and active listener |
| * Research and advocacy skills | * Trained Mentor and fully garda vetted |

**EDUCATION**

**Trinity College Dublin, Dublin** *- LLB Law – Final Year student*

September 2018 - 2022

* On track to complete with at least an upper second class honours

**1st Year: 67% Overall**

Constitutional Law I (69%), Tort Law (67%), Foundations of Law (67%), Contract Law (69%) Criminal Law (62%), Legislation and Regulation (69%)

**Project Work:** Drafting mock legislation for Legislation and Regulation, participating in mock parliamentary debate

**2nd Year: 63% Overall**

Administrative Law (65%), Constitutional Law II (64%), Land Law (67%), EU Law (63%), Equity (66%), Private Law Remedies (60%)

**Project Work:** Moot program in Private Law Remedies over three group assignments, drafting court submission and practice of advocacy skills and debating skills

**3rd Year: 67% Overall**

Legal Philosophy (62%), Family Law (70%), Evidence (67%), Employment Law (68%), Public Interest Law (70%), Company Law (67%)

**Final Year: In Progress**

Medical Law and Ethics, Food Law, Critical Perspectives of Law, Current Issues in Constitutional Law, Refugee and Immigration Law, Financial Services Law

**Dissertation**: Community Based Research strand in conjunction with the Irish Penal Reform Trust; Prison Law

**Malahide Community School, Malahide** *- Junior Certificate, Leaving Certificate*

September 2012 - May 2018

* 11 Junior Certificate Honours
* 7 Leaving Certificate Honours

**EXPERIENCE**

**Matheson,  Sir John Rogerson’s Quay, Dublin 2** *- Law First Intern*

April 2019 - January 2020

In this role I was exposed to a real world commercial law firm and through various activities gained valuable broad experience, including

* Research project on innovation and diversity which enhanced my research and analytical skills, creative thinking and articulation skills
* Various workshops including communication skills, research skills and team building skills
* Participated in a mock trial, improving advocacy and oral skills. I also gained a real life court experience and improved my understanding of the courts role in Ireland
* Knowledge as to how commercial law firms engage with clients in order to build a good customer relationship. I was introduced to the ethos of the company and how certain driving factors help improve sales, profits and derive excellent standards
* Improved confidence in talking to others and learning more about the various roles involved in a commercial law firm
* Insight into a large multinational private client, learning about the role of in-house lawyers

Key Achievements

* Strengthened my overall understanding of legal practices
* Winner of team building competition
* Experience using Microsoft Word

**Starbucks Malahide (Atercin), Malahide** *- Barista*

February 2019 - PRESENT

* Customer facing role – meet and greet, customer service and conflict resolution
* Management and maintenance of equipment
* Adherence to health and safety standards, and government regulations
* Remain knowledgeable on all products, in particular seasonal offerings
* Onboarding new members of staff with positive reinforcement and encouraging coaching

Key Achievements

* Employee of the month and achieved some of the highest sales whilst working full time, May-August 2019

**HOBBIES and SOCIETIES**

**Student-2-Student Mentoring** September 2021 – PRESENT

Buddy system operated in Trinity College which links incoming students with students in the same course in senior years. Duties include providing tours to incoming students, communicating with them throughout the year, answering questions and making their transition to college easy and comfortable

**Foróige Volunteer -** September 2021- PRESENT

I will commence volunteer work with Foroige Youth Development Service in my local area. This is a youth service provided to children of all ages, allowing them to realise their full potential, learn new skills and meet new people. Duties will include leading meetings, interacting with children and creating a fun and safe environment for all members. Completed child protecton traiing and

**DU Food& Drinks Society, 4th Year Rep -** September 2021- PRESENT

Elected to represent 4th year students in the Trinity College Dublin University food and drink societies. Duties include advertising events, advocating fourth year interests, selling tickets, team collaboration in organising and participating in events.

**DU Law Society, Access to Law Mentor -** September 2021- PRESENT

Selected to provide group presentation over Zoom to disadvantaged schools about studying law in Trinity College. Duties will include conducting group presentations, answering questions, working in a team to deliver presentations, operating technology such as Zoom and Microsoft PowerPoint and understanding and researching access routes into law in order to convey information to class groups.

**Swimming -** September 2012 – July 2016

Competed with a high performance swim team at a national level throughout secondary school. Won various awards at competitions throughout the year, developing drive and determination to work hard and achieve my personal goals set at the beginning of each month.

**Ballet -** September 2016 – September 2017

Recreational classes in ballet for my own personal enjoyment and to challenge myself outside competitive swimming. Participated in various showcases and completed Grade 6 RAD curriculum.

**Piano –** September 2019 – September 2021

Commenced piano lessons in my second year of college in order to learn a new skill and exercise my mind outside of my legal studies. Piano has given me confidence to take on new skills, taught me time-keeping skills and developed my attention to detail and listening skills.

**AWARDS**

* Employee of the month, Starbucks Malahide (July 2019)
* First Aid Certificate (August 2017)
* TY Maths Award (May 2016)
* TY English Award (May 2016)
* Bronze Gaisce Award (2016)
* Junior Certificate year -  Overall Class Merit Winner (May 2015)
* All Ireland Swimming competitor - Senior Level (2013-2016)
* Grade 5 Ballet, Grade 2 Irish Dancing
* Cultural exchange participant; March 2010, 2011, 2012

**Referees**:

Gerry Whyte, Lecturer Trinity College Dublin

Aileen Kavanagh, Trinity College Dublin

Jack Keogh, Starbucks Malahide Manager