

Alex O’Riordan

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Re: Alex O’Riordan’s application to the ByrneWallace 2023 Trainee Solicitor Programme

Dear Ms. Loftus,

I am writing to apply for a position on the ByrneWallace Trainee Solicitor Programme. I am a senior sophister student reading Law at Trinity College Dublin. I expect to graduate in May.

My first experience with your firm was in 2014, when I completed my Transition Year work experience programme with ByrneWallace. This was my first foray into the legal world and it really sparked my interest in legal practice. I was granted the opportunity again to work with your firm in June of 2020, when I secured a place on your summer internship programme. Unfortunately, I was unable to proceed with this due to Covid-19, however I remain eager to work with you.

I hope to pursue a career in corporate law as it perfectly intersects my two interests: law and business. The prospect of litigating for major corporate clients excites me as it is intellectually stimulating and practical.

I have wide experience in the legal sector. In 2016 I began working in Coleman Legal, initially as an office assistant. I was quickly promoted to legal secretary to two senior associates. This experience was integral to my professional development as it confirmed my desire to pursue a career in law, as well as teaching me how to excel in a professional environment at quite a young age.

More recently, in September, I completed a month long internship in Fieldfisher. I gained a variety of experience, working in both the Litigation and Public & Regulatory departments. This experience proved a fascinating dichotomy as I dealt with both major corporate clients and quasi-governmental bodies, respectively.

I would like to work in ByrneWallace, not only because of its international excellence and wide array of practice areas but also because of my longstanding relationship with the firm. Throughout the course of my transition year work experience, I was highly impressed by the culture of the firm. Although I could not complete the summer internship, I met the same degree of patience and sense of camaraderie

during my interview. This instils a deep confidence in me that the mentorship I receive during my traineeship which will allow me to develop and flourish.

The firm's devotion to diversity, inclusion and social responsibility is very important to me. I spent a summer in Vancouver working for a small company owned by a same-sex couple. We worked hard to promote the values of diversity and equality and to ensure the store was an inclusive, pro-LGBT space. I am a member of the Trinity College Vincent de Paul society and have undergone Child Protection Training and Garda vetting which allows me to take part in after-school homework clubs in disadvantaged areas.

I am an excellent communicator and have good attention to detail. I am highly efficient and professional, something that has been repeatedly relayed to me by previous employers.

During my Erasmus semester in Barcelona, I worked with students from over 25 jurisdictions. This gave me an appreciation of how a comparative approach to law provides a far greater understanding. This experience has impressed upon me the importance of having international links within a firm. Therefore, ByrneWallace's global presence is highly attractive to me.

In university, I am a committee member of Eliz, a debating society focused on highlighting women's issues. I believe this role will aid me greatly in my journey to becoming a solicitor. Not only does this experience allow me to develop my strengths as a team player, taking part in debating allows me to grow my skills in problem solving and advocacy.

I know that at ByrneWallace, hard work and determination is rewarded. I believe I have the enthusiasm, dedication and drive which will make me an appropriate candidate for this programme. I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to attend the programme and I'd be happy to provide to provide any other information and/or references that you may need.

I look forward to speaking with you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Alex O'Riordan