

Anna Somsen

18 Evora Park,  
Howth,  
Co. Dublin.

Byrne Wallace,  
87-88 Harcourt Street,  
Dublin 2.

15<sup>th</sup> February 2016

Dear,

I wish to apply for a place on the Byrne Wallace Summer Internship Programme 2016. I am eager to gain experience working in one of Ireland's leading business law firms, with the aspiration of obtaining a traineeship with the firm in the future.

I am currently completing a Masters degree in Child and Family Law (LLM) in University College Cork. It is giving me the opportunity to fully immerse myself in a highly specialist, inter-disciplinary and fast-evolving subject, gaining a unique qualification which is the first of its kind in Ireland. In the future, I hope to utilize my expertise in advising clients on child protection issues, human assisted reproduction and other issues ensuing from the emergence of non-traditional family forms, as well as on wider medico-legal issues. As a firm with an outstanding reputation, I would revel at the opportunity to put my skills into practice in the healthcare law department of Byrne Wallace, but certainly my interests and skills are not restricted to this area.

In 2014, I graduated with a Law degree from Trinity College, Dublin. Upon completion of my degree, I endeavored to obtain as much practical legal experience as possible, in a wide variety of legal areas. This began with a four-week placement in Matheson, where I obtained a crucial understanding of the workings of a large, international, commercial law firm. I then spent six weeks interning with the Northside Community Law & Mediation Centre, an independent, community-based law centre that provides free advice and representation to those who otherwise would not be able to gain access to legal services. This was a truly eye-opening experience that reasserted my dedication to the promotion of justice.

I then spent one year working as a Legal Executive in Noel Smyth & Partners, gaining invaluable practical legal experience by working alongside a Senior Partner specialising in litigation and commercial property transactions. I have also been a dedicated volunteer with FLAC for eighteen months, where I assist monthly in free legal advice centres. The skills I have developed to date, from accurate legal drafting to extensive legal research, as well as my strong ability to communicate with clients in an articulate and professional manner, make me an ideal candidate for your programme.

I am confident that a career as a solicitor is the right path for me, and I plan to sit my FE1 exams upon completion of my Masters. As well as legal work experience, I have an extensive array of general work experience, which I believe reflects my strong work-ethic and ability to adapt to new work environments, both at home and internationally. Currently, I am working part-time in the Institute of Public Administration alongside commuting once a week for lectures in UCC and a heavy college workload, which proves my dedication to maintaining financial independence and stability, as well as my ability to multi-task. Having seized the opportunity to study international law abroad in my third year of university, I have shown that I am pro-active, not risk averse and enjoy surrounding myself with new people and experiences.

Throughout my studies, I have always had an interest in a wide variety of subjects. This is another reason why I am drawn to Byrne Wallace, with its unique range of practice areas that cannot be matched in competing firms. The international commercial world is an exciting and constantly changing environment, and I believe the variety and pace of the work at Byrne Wallace will allow me to develop and reach my full potential.

I greatly appreciate your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours faithfully,  
Anna Somsen