Dear Sirs/Madam,

My name is Aoife Brittain, a driven and eager final year Law student in DCU striving to enhance and add value to the Byrne Wallace LLP team. I am writing to express my strong interest in securing a traineeship at Byrne Wallace. With a deep appreciation for the practice of law and a track record of exceptional achievements, I am eager to contribute my skills and dedication to your esteemed full-service law firm. My experiences, which include securing an internship at A&L Goodbody, being selected for a 9-month internship in AMOSS LLP, participating in an ELSA (European Law Students’ Association) Law Summer School, being elected as Senior Editor for DCU’s Her Campus magazine and reaching the semi-finals of DCU’s Criminal Mock Trial competition, have equipped me with the skills and drive to excel in this traineeship.

Firstly, I have a great appreciation for many aspects of law and its multifaceted nature. Being able to engage with one of the largest full-service law firms in Ireland would resonate profoundly with my own aspirations to explore many areas of law and provide me with an array of departments to explore. Furthermore, Byrne Wallace’s dedication to Corporate Social Responsibility would be an area where I would love to get involved. From many sources on your website, particularly trainee blogs and videos, I further acknowledge your firm’s dedication to a healthy, positive work culture and I understand this supportive environment to be vital for my legal skills to develop and my career progression within the firm.

Through my practical work experience in two leading corporate and commercial law firms, I accelerated my understanding of the practice of law, and they have complemented my legal knowledge greatly. I possess a clear understanding of the responsibilities of a solicitor and a great desire which motivated me to pursue this role.

I believe through these experiences I am a worthy candidate for this role. I was delighted to have received the A&L Goodbody (ALG) Academic Performance Award for highest grades achieved in BCL Year 2 at DCU. My academic achievement highlights my commitment to excellence and my strong grasp of legal concepts. This award led to my participation in ALG’s internship programme for the month of June in 2023. This experience allowed me to navigate complex legal issues, communicate effectively within a professional setting, and manage tasks efficiently. It also provided me with a solid foundation in legal practice and cultivated my commitment to delivering the highest standards of client service. These qualities are essential for the role of a trainee, and I would help me in my endeavour of supporting and learning from accomplished solicitors within Byrne Wallace LLP.

I also had the opportunity to immerse myself in another leading commercial law firm, AMOSS, as part of my third year of college for a period of 9 months. In AMOSS, I worked as a property intern supporting experienced solicitors in conducting legal research, drafting legal documents, and assisting with various aspects of case management. I handled calls in a timely manner and appropriately responded to client queries. I demonstrated flexibility and versatility by managing reception when needed. My involvement in real-world legal scenarios marked substantial growth for me and attests to my capacity to analyse intricate issues and propose solutions. This role reinforced my ability to adapt to various legal environments, work collaboratively with diverse teams, and develop innovative solutions to complex legal issues.

This August, I had the pleasure of being selected for an ELSA Summer School in Sofia with a focus on corporate law and governance. My active involvement in this SELS and the many cross-cultural connections I made, emboldened my enthusiasm and eagerness to apply for this role. I understand the importance of have relationships with people from different networks to expand your understanding, perspectives and to promote interpersonal skills and self-growth. This experience allowed me to interact and network with many ELSA participants from all over Europe. As a trainee in Byrne Wallace, I would utilise these interpersonal skills to connect with colleagues, clients, and other solicitors from various firms to establish a professional network.

One of the defining moments of my legal journey was my achievement as a semi-finalist in the DCU Criminal Mock Trial competition, as well as, excelling my second year moot module. This experience honed my advocacy skills, refined my legal research capabilities, and instilled me with a passion to pursue law.

A more recent pursuit in my professional development has been my involvement with DCU’s Her Campus magazine. This allows me to have a creative outlet and provides me with a forum where I can be innovative in devising and presenting weekly pitches for potential magazine titles. It also has developed key skills I can apply to a traineeship such as a sharp eye for detail, ensuring deadlines are met and weekly meetings are organised for prompt deliverance of the online magazine.

My experiences have imparted me with strong research, analysis, and advocacy skills, in addition to a deep understanding of the legal profession. I am excited about the prospect of contributing my knowledge and energy to Byrne Wallace LLP and embracing the firm's esteemed tradition of legal excellence.

I am confident that my experiences and my unwavering dedication to the law make me a strong candidate for a traineeship at Byrne Wallace LLP and I look forward to the possibility of further discussing how I can be an asset to your legal team and contribute to your firm's continued success.

Thank you for considering my application.

Yours faithfully,

Aoife Brittain