**Cover Letter | AOILEANN KENNEDY |**

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**Role:** Trainee Solicitor

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to apply for a position as a Trainee Solicitor in Byrne Wallace. I am a UCD Law Graduate (Class of 2017) and I am currently working as a Data Protection Compliance Inspector for NOONAN Services Group Ltd.

I am interested in pursuing a legal career for numerous reasons. My four years in UCD instilled a great love and appreciation for the legal profession. I studied a wide variety of topics and gained a deep appreciation for how multifaceted and fulfilling a legal career can be. Since leaving university, I have worked in a corporate setting. I initially began working as a Bid Writer in a busy business development team. This introduced me to the corporate world and showed me how contracts are won, lost and retained. It also gave me insight into the contracts process and the importance of documentation and negotiation. My current role is in legislative compliance in Ireland’s largest facilities management company. I am responsible for ensuring company-wide compliance with the data protection laws in both Ireland and the UK. This role has given me an understanding of the broad implications legislation and compliance have on both corporate and private entities. I have demonstrated my ability to manage projects and tasks, as well as deal with high pressure scenarios. I am an effective communicator and I regularly conduct training and awareness exercises with staff. I manage the training for almost 6,000 staff members across two jurisdictions. I liaise directly with clients and work with them to create Data Processing Agreements and DPIAs. Such success within a commercial setting, where customer service is of great importance, reflects my client-cantered attitude and acumen for problem-solving. I believe that the experience I have gained through these roles, combined with my legal education, would make me an ideal candidate for this position.

I completed a BCL from UCD in 2017. Over the course of my degree, I studied a variety of subjects, including:

* Contract Law
* Constitutional Law
* Law of Tort
* Criminal Law
* Property Law
* Equity
* Human Rights Law
* Media Law
* Planning Law
* Microeconomics
* Family & Child Law
* Matrimonial Law & Reliefs
* EU Law
* EU Economic Law
* Company Law
* Employment Law

While in UCD I served as Careers Officer for the UCD Law Society. This honed my communication and organisational skills, as well as introducing me to a career in law. I was the Music Editor of the College Tribune newspaper. This helped develop my planning, project management and time management skills, as well as giving me the opportunity to develop creative and interesting content on a bi-monthly basis. My legal education gave me a genuine and continuing interest in pursuing a legal career. It has given me an appreciation for the variety of work undertaken by lawyers and the importance of that work. My subsequent career has only strengthened that desire and has shown me how law and business are connected in a substantive way. I have first-hand experience of the important role played by solicitors in a corporate setting and I have seen what the client wants from their legal team.

I believe that I have demonstrated the determination, ability and commitment you are looking for. I have attached a copy of my CV highlighting relevant experience to the Trainee Solicitor position. Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.



Sincerely,