ByrneWallace Aonaid Carr,

Manager of Trainee programme, 61 Seacrest,

88 Harcourt St, Knocknacarra,

Dublin 2. Galway.

 14 October 2018.

Dear Sir/Madame,

My name is Aonaid Carr and I am writing to apply for the ByrneWallace Trainee Programme 2020. I have recently graduated second in my class, with a First Class Honours degree in Civil Law from NUI Galway.

I believe that I would be the ideal candidate for ByrneWallace’s Trainee Programme as through my past experience and extra-curricular activities, I have developed strong interpersonal skills, I have demonstrated initiative, I am highly motivated and I have enhanced my analytical skills with regards to legal research and writing tasks.

During the Summer of 2018, I was one of four students in my class awarded the opportunity to complete an internship in the District Attorney’s Office, Suffolk County, Boston, Massachusetts. I primarily drafted memoranda of Motions to Suppress Evidence, in opposition. Despite not having prior knowledge of US precedence, I quickly adapted to my new surroundings. I have also proven my ability to pay attention to detail and analyse legal issues in order to apply them to particular case facts. Furthermore, I was required to review the defence's motion and to counteract their arguments whilst comparing and contrasting it to Massachusetts precedence. On one occasion, my supervising attorney allowed me to second chair the Motion to Suppress which I had drafted. I believe my ability to adapt to new surroundings and my enhanced legal research and writing skills would be transferable to my future legal career with ByrneWallace.

I significantly enhanced my communication and interpersonal skills during my internship in the Irish Refugee Council, which was part of a clinical placement module that I completed. My motivation to complete this internship was highlighted through my dedication in making a return journey from Galway to Dublin every Friday during my final year of studies. I primarily acted as a legal representative for clients at their determinative interview in the International Protection Office. I was required to build a relationship with the client prior to her interview. My role was to provide moral support and ensure that arbitrary questions were not posed to the client. The high responsibility awarded to me whilst attending these interviews allowed me to learn how to remain professional and client focused in high-pressure situations.

With regards to extra- curricular activities, in September 2017, I was elected as team leader of Enactus NUIG, a social entrepreneurial organisation. In my capacity, I used my innovative abilities and founded the social enterprise "Le Chéile- Understanding Autism". Le Chéile is a 1 hour workshop delivered to secondary school students, which involves a one on one interview with a NUIG student who has autism. I demonstrated initiative as I spotted a niche in the market whilst speaking to the student about his hatred for school due to the lack of his peers' understanding about his autism. Thus, I successfully presented the project before a local school principal, resulting in my team and I piloting the workshop before a class of 35 students. I further led Enactus NUIG to secure second place at the Enactus Ireland National Competition against ten of Ireland’s Universities. This required my team and I to present our portfolio of social enterprises in a 20 minute presentation to Ireland’s top innovators including managing partners from KPMG, Unilever, Bank of Ireland, Arthur Cox, Enterprise Ireland and many more.

I am equally as capable of being a team member and a team leader and this is clear as I am an active member of my local hockey team. This year we won the Irish Challenge Cup for the first time in the club’s history. My association with hockey has allowed me to receive constructive criticism from my coach and also give advice to my teammates. In addition, I have learned how to make decisions under pressure as well as enhancing my ability to compromise. I believe our success was a result of reflecting on the collaborative performance after winning or losing a game and focusing on room for improvement.I believe my ability to collaborate with a team would benefit me in my role as a trainee solicitor whilst working with associates, partners, fellow trainees and clients.

Although I possess initiative, motivation, strong communication skills, resilience and an ability to be a team leader and a team member, I also have strong desire to pursue a career in corporate law with ByrneWallace.

I gained an insight into negotiation and litigation during my time shadowing the in-house legal counsel of Primark, Boston. I would enjoy working on the ByrneWallace team, particularly in the Merger and Acquisition department as I would love to gain a deeper insight into the negotiations and litigation involved in the such cases. Namely, advising Presidion which was recently acquired by Version 1 as well as advising Brindley Healthcare on its recent acquisition, allowing the frim to grow nationally. I know that I want to work on major transformative transactions which are significant milestones for all the companies in question. In particular, I want to work on the ByrneWallace team as it is highly sought after and recognised internationally. Along with the various national and international accolades awarded to the firm, I believe the prestigious clients that ByrneWallace represent are reflective of the firm’s success. The fast-growing environment of ByrneWallace, with its recent appointment of three partners, is a firm that I would like to train and advance in.

I welcome the opportunity to meet with you and speak further about my resume and my interest in the Trainee Solicitor Programme.

Warmest Regards,

Aonaid Carr.