FAO: Head of Trainee Recruitment

ByrneWallace

88 Harcourt Street

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Dublin 2

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**Trainee Recruitment Programme 2017**

To whom it may concern,

I wish to highlight a number of points to you. I will outline the reasons for my belief that, should I be given the opportunity, I will succeed as a trainee with ByrneWallace. I also hope to draw some parallels between my experiences to date and how they may be relevant to a trainee role with ByrneWallace. Finally, I hope to give you an overall indication of my motives for making ByrneWallace one of my preferred choices.

Overall, I feel that my skill set, together with my wide-ranging experience to date, has offered me an excellent platform from which to develop into becoming a successful solicitor. One experience in particular which may prove useful during a traineeship with ByrneWallace, is my current employment with EKO Integrated Services. While working with EKO, I have become accustomed to performing in an environment of service excellence, where exact attention to detail is demanded. I understand from reading the trainee profiles on the ByrneWallace website that these are vital attributes for any corporate solicitor to have.

I believe that initially, should I be successful in obtaining a traineeship with ByrneWallace, it would be to my advantage that I can draw upon my strong work ethic which has been developed from an early age while growing up in my family’s wholesale business in Ennis. There is no doubt that slacking off is not an option when growing up in a family business! As my older brother works with a top five Dublin law firm, I am fully aware of the level and standard of work which would be expected of me, and this is certainly a challenge that I relish.

During the summer of 2016, I worked as a legal intern in the Contracts and Legal Department of Shannon Engine Support (SES) Ltd. During my time with SES, one of the world’s leading players in the aircraft engine leasing market, I quickly got to grips with the key legal considerations in transactions in the sector.  In addition, it was an opportunity for me to put into practice some of the legal theories which I had learnt during my three years in NUIG. My background in contract law was particularly relevant in this regard as the focus of negotiations was often on warranties and indemnities. Although the aircraft engine leasing business is quite specialised, most of my work with SES required skills which I believe would be relevant across the board, should I succeed in obtaining a traineeship with ByrneWallace. Teamwork was deemed to be the most important element of our work in the Contracts and Legal department.  We required full cohesion between ours and each other departments before signing off on any deal. I was comfortable with this emphasis on teamwork, while also feeling that I struck the correct balance between seeking approval on an issue and being confident enough to make an informed decision. I understand from my brother that judging the right balance in this regard is an important skill to have during a traineeship with a prestigious firm such as ByrneWallace

In addition, I am confident that I have the requisite intellect and common sense to succeed during a traineeship with ByrneWallace. You will note that I have secured passes in six FE1 exams and currently await results from the remaining two subjects. I am particularly proud of this achievement seeing as during this period, I was working full-time, firstly, in the family wholesale business and subsequently, with EKO. Accordingly, I do not envisage having any difficulty in unravelling complex legislation or being able to focus on the crucial points in any case law or legal issue. Moreover, I feel that one of my key attributes is my ability to use my common sense and logic to think clearly under pressure, a skill that I understand would be highly relevant to a career in corporate law, given the dynamic, high-stakes-environment in which top corporate law firms such as ByrneWallace operate.

In terms of what has motivated me to apply for the ByrneWallace Traineeship Programme, the primary attraction for me was the prestige associated with the firm. On the basis of my research, ByrneWallace is a valued advisor to a host of blue-chip companies. Another point which struck me from the ByrneWallace website and trainee profiles, was the firm’s clear investment in trainee development. This point is particularly important to me, as I realise that in order to excel, I will need to absorb each piece of guidance and training that I can avail of.

In summary, I feel that I have the perfect background, both academically and from my various experiences in the workplace, to enjoy a very successful spell with ByrneWallace. Should I be fortunate enough to obtain a traineeship, I am determined to learn as much as possible, and perform to a very high-standard in any work in which fee-earners involve me, with a view to making a positive overall impression.

Thank you for your time.

Kind regards

Aonghas Keane