Dear Ms. Loftus,

I am a final-year Business and Law student at University College Dublin, and I am writing to apply for a traineeship at ByrneWallace.

Initially, I had wanted to study International Commerce at UCD. During my gap year, I combined a legal internship with an Advanced Certificate in Business (Legal) and realised that I was much better suited to commercial law. Sharing an office with a Senior Counsel, who is very active in the Commercial Court, meant that I learned much about the processes involved in commercial litigation and mediation. Further, with an interest in commercial matters and finance, I pursued an internship at Dillon Eustace. When meeting the various solicitors and understanding their work, I was more intrigued by the collaborative nature of commercial law and was taught skills such as negotiating and co-ordinating with several parties. Finally, after deciding that I wanted to train in a strong Irish firm with international connections, I was recommended by a previous UCD student to apply for a position at ByrneWallace.

My personal motivation to work at ByrneWallace, in particular, is for two reasons: the training, and the forward-thinking approach.

Clients desire solicitors who have a great portfolio of experience and can advise them effectively on any given matter, making ByrneWallace an attractive firm. The opportunity to have exposure to dedicated specialist areas, such as technology and IP, whilst having a foundation in the firm’s core areas would provide me most opportunities to succeed and develop during my traineeship.

I am also influenced by the firm’s forward-thinking approach, through the recognition from the international standard for information security management, to the firm’s connections in Europe, the USA, and Australasia. These links show how the firm is responding to clients’ complex cross-border needs and remaining competitive. This membership with ALFA International sets ByrneWallace apart from other Irish competitor and is attractive because there is an opportunity to do business with international clients while ensuring the quality of work for domestic clients remains high. At UCD, I undertook a Comparative Law module and enjoyed the added layer of complexity involved. Further, during the UCD Corporate and Commercial Law Study Visit to London, I negotiated on an aviation finance transaction and confidently engaged in the multi-jurisdictional aspect.

I have worked in Canada, the USA, Europe, and South America, and feel confident in my ability to adapt to different people and cultures. I want to develop the necessary soft skills further and comprehend exactly how ByrneWallace collaborates with international and domestic clients on various deals. For this reason, and the reasons aforementioned, I am delighted to apply to ByrneWallace.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Blaithin Sharpley.