The Manager of the Byrne Wallace Trainee Solicitor Programme, Byrne Wallace Dublin Office, 88 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2, D02 DK18, Ireland.

30th of October 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Cathal O Maoilchiarain and I am applying for the Trainee Solicitor Programme with Byrne Wallace. I completed my Bachelor of Corporate Law (International) Degree, in NUI Galway, in May of this year, and am currently studying for the FE-1 exams.

I feel I would be an ideal candidate for Byrne Wallace as I believe I could bring a lot to your firm. I have a good work ethic, and can work well in a team, as well as taking the initiative and completing tasks on my own.

My best quality, I believe, is my work ethic. I grew up working on the family farm. I have also worked, labouring, on fish farms since I was sixteen years of age. There, I worked in difficult and dangerous environments. I brought the lessons I learned, about work ethic, to my studies, to achieve a 2.1 in my undergraduate degree, while also being a director of a commercial diving company. While developing this work ethic I also learned vital skills, which are important, regardless of which sector/industry one is working in. When working at sea one must have good communication skills as it is a difficult, and potentially dangerous environment. In my time as both a labourer and a commercial diver I have improved my communication skills, so that my colleagues and I can work together, to complete the task at hand in a professional and safe manner. As a self-employed person I must communicate with managers in various industries, to get work. This involves calling and emailing managers and industry leaders. I am also trustworthy, during my time working on fish farms, I was entrusted with the operating of machinery, and the upkeep of fish stock, valued at millions of euros. I was also working in a dangerous environment, therefore I had to prove to my co-workers that I was trustworthy when it came to health and safety procedure. Being self-employed, I rely on other people to give me work. I had to prove to those who offer me contracts that I am a capable and reliable individual.

I was delighted to see your firm’s practice areas, particularly corporate governance and compliance, and commercial contracts. The company and commercial law modules I completed in university were some of the modules that I enjoyed studying the most. Studying corporate law also allowed me to complete modules relating to finance and economics. These modules may not have been directly related to law; however, I believe they are still important. They are particularly pertinent to the areas of corporate governance and commercial contracts as they can explain why a company might end up in difficulty or why companies would want to enter into certain contracts. As someone involved in the SME sector, I have gained practical experience in some of the areas I studied at university, e.g. corporate governance, and economics.

I appreciate you taking the time to read my application and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Cathal O Maoilchiarain.