Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a BCL Clinical student, based in University College Cork and I am writing to you in application for your trainee solicitor programme in your Dublin office.

I am interested in pursuing a career in a commercial law firm, due to my positive experiences in the past year at Ronan Daly Jermyn (RDJ) and P.J. O’Driscoll & Sons Solicitors. I gained an insight into the working life of trainee solicitor and after showing an aptitude over both of the internships, I feel this is this right career path for me. Secondly, I have immensely enjoyed studying law at university and getting the opportunity to learn and understand new legal topics on a weekly basis. A good proportion of my modules studied thus far and in final year are tailored towards working in a commercial environment. I have specifically enjoyed studying Information Technology Law, where focus was mainly on data protection. I completed an assignment on how effective the current directive and the impact the new General Data Protection Regulation will have on social media sites.

As a top ten commercial law firm in Ireland, Byrne Wallace is one of the first to come to mind when making applications. This recognition is based on your success, emphasised by the awards bestowed on your firm on a yearly basis, by publications such as Chambers Global for your excellence in client service. The achievements of any firm is based on its solicitors. From this, I know that Byrne Wallace has highly skilled solicitors, operating at the top of their respective fields. A training position at your firm would allow me learn, observe and develop as a solicitor from the very best.

Secondly, the culture and values embraced by your firm make Byrne Wallace a desirable firm to work at. Your focus on technology particularly stands out, with Byrne Wallace being the only firm in Ireland to have implemented ISO 27001. In 2017, this focus on technology is essential to provide the most efficient service for clients. The emphasis placed on excellence in client care, highlighted by the firm’s Lexcel Accreditation, is also attractive for both clients and potential trainees alike. When a culture of excellence in work is adopted in an organisation, it sets a minimum bar for everyone to operate at, thus pushing everyone forward in their work. I know that this atmosphere would play a crucial role in developing me into a high quality solicitor.

In addition to the above, I know that Byrne Wallace would be the right place to complete a traineeship due to your commitment to giving trainees genuine experience and legal knowledge. Aspects of your training programme, such as rotations through different legal departments and partner supervision of work, would significantly advance my development and make me into a well-rounded solicitor.

Overall, my attributes are well suited to working in a corporate law firm. My time at RDJ has highlighted my flexibility and how quickly I can adapt to a new department, which is important in a rotational training and qualifying as a multi-disciplinary solicitor. Secondly, my time management and organisational skills have been honed in a commercial law environment in RDJ, where I was taught to always be proactive with a client file, rather than being reactive, always pushing the file forward, hence, ensuring the best and most efficient service to a client. Lastly, my teamwork skills have been developed significantly through playing football and working on team projects in RDJ. This skill is essential for a collaborative approach in a law firm.

Thank you for taking my application under consideration and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Murray