

Ciarán Sweeney,
18 Villarea Park, Glenageary, Co. Dublin
Tel: 0851110501
Email: ciaransweeney95@gmail.com

Crona McLoughlin,
Head of Human Resources,
ByrneWallace,
87-88 Harcourt Street,
Dublin 2

Dear Ms. McLoughlin,

Ref: ByrneWallace Training Contract Application

I am delighted to apply for a Training Contract at ByrneWallace. I am a final year UCD Law with Economics Student and have just returned from a year-long international exchange at the University of Minnesota Law School. I am fully aware of how competitive the current job market is for law graduates seeking training contracts but I believe that I possess the key skills that ByrneWallace looks for in its applicants and therefore feel that I am a strong candidate to obtain a training contract.

Firstly, what initially encouraged me to apply to ByrneWallace was how impressed I was by the firm when I spoke at length to Sandra Masterson-Power, a Partner in the Knowledge, Learning and Development department of the firm at the UCD Law Recruitment Fair. Sandra underlined that an excellent academic record is essential to obtain a training contract with the firm as ByrneWallace is always committed to providing the most exceptional legal service to its clients. I believe that I meet this academic criterion, having obtained a first-class honours in the last set of exam results that I sat, in May of this year, at the University of Minnesota Law School.

Secondly, coupled with my excellent academic record, I have both valuable commercial and legal experience. My commercial experience stems from working for Standard Life International Ltd in the summer of 2013 as well as in retail for SPAR from January 2014 to August 2015. I also obtained valuable legal experience through completing two internships this summer, at A&L Goodbody in June and Maples & Calder in July as well as working alongside Minnesota District Court Judge Jacqueline Regis from January to May this year. The internships at A&L Goodbody and Maples greatly improved my legal research skills as I was using databases such as Westlaw and LexisNexis on a daily basis to research statutes and cases for the trainees and associates. Further to this, working with Judge Regis furthered both my legal research skills as well as my legal writing skills.

Thirdly, ByrneWallace is the only top ten law firm in Ireland to obtain the Lexcel Standard of Excellence Accreditation due to its high standards client care, quality and business management. While working for Judge Regis, I learned the importance of providing the highest standards and quality to her, to best help her decide cases before the court. I believe that I could take this attention to detail that I learned from this experience and apply it to ByrneWallace, where attention to detail is clearly such an inherent characteristic of the firm, given its accreditation.

Lastly, I am very capable of building relationships with people and feel that I could bring this to ByrneWallace to bring strong relationships with both colleagues and clients. Through my involvement in college societies and through the different jobs that I have had, I have always built strong connections with people that I have met and would love the opportunity to do that at ByrneWallace.

For the reasons I have outlined above, I believe that ByrneWallace is a great fit for me, and having only heard positive things about it from everyone that I have talked to, and in particular Sandra who had nothing but praise for the firm, obtaining a ByrneWallace Training Contract would be an opportunity I would truly relish. Thank you in advance for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,

Ciarán Sweeney