Clodagh Crumlish

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Ireland

Graduate Recruitment,

Byrne Wallace,

88 Harcourt Street,

Dublin 2,

D02 DK18

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Dear Graduate Recruitment Team,

I wish to apply for a position on your trainee solicitor programme. As a Trinity College Dublin law student in my final year, I believe that my knowledge, skills and experience to date are suited to this role. After speaking with a representative from Byrne Wallace at this years Law Fair, and having researched your firm further online, I was impressed with what I discovered about your programme.

In early 2016 I participated in a programme from which I was chosen to travel to London to attend an open day at Clifford Chance. This experience proved to me that I have special interest in the sphere of corporate law. In Clifford Chance, I was exposed to the ways in which law could intersect with real-life issues. Corporate lawyers play a direct role in supporting businesses and the global economy. This experience allowed me to appreciate the fact that law does not exist in a vacuum and working knowledge of business practice in the UK and the US are of crucial importance for any firm.

After spending my third year abroad in the United States, I completed a concentration in commercial and business law. This concentration provided me with the opportunity to study subjects which are simply otherwise unavailable in Ireland. Over the space of nine months, I completed classes in accounting, transactional drafting, international business transactions and corporations. This concentration, which is typically provided for LLM students, prepared me for work in the global business environment.

I applied the skills that I cultivated during my concentration while participating in the Elmore Entrepreneurship Law Clinic’s Annual Transactional Drafting Competition. Over the course of one weekend I negotiated purchase price adjustments, earn outs and net working capital pegs against 60 postgraduate law students. After many late nights in the law school library my stock purchase agreement placed third.

As a result of these experiences I applied to and was accepted for a 4 week internship in Beauchamps. While there I worked in the corporate and commercial department. Here, I honed my business skills, I learnt how to draft agendas, prepare merger packs and navigate my way around Vision Net. I attended client meetings and conducted research on cross border mergers, which I had the opportunity to present to the corporate department. For the duration of the internship I shared an office with one of the partners in the corporate department. This allowed me to witness real life inside a law firm: how to speak with clients, how to explain conceptually difficult matters and how to pitch for jobs.

There are many reasons why Byrne Wallace is my firm of choice, most notably for its corporate team. Byrne Wallace’s corporate team deals with a range of corporate matters and transactions. Your firm boasts a growing international clients base, which has a particular focus on joint ventures and venture capitalists. Byrne Wallace’s corporate lawyers are recognised for their commercial acumen. Byrne Wallace’s corporate department reflects a dynamism and professional outlook which makes it a uniquely attractive environment to train in.

In addition to my corporate history, I have been cultivating practical legal experience. While I was research assistant with the Inmate Legal Assistance Programme I was entrusted with the responsibility of advising inmates on legal issues under the guidance of an attorney. My most frequent cases involved direct appeals and ineffective assistance of counsel claims. I had to meet and interview potential clients on a bi-weekly basis in Indiana’s federal penitentiary. During my tenure I learnt how to conduct legal research, draft legal memoranda and client letters. This experience was a unique opportunity for me to sharpen my practical legal skills while acting as an advocate in contentious and sometimes upsetting circumstances. I feel that this experience is relevant to Byrne Wallace in that it shows resilience and dedication.

Being part of your trainee solicitor programme would be a fantastic opportunity and an honour. I know that the training, feedback and support that I would receive in Byrne Wallace would be top tier.

Thank you for taking the time to review my application and I look forward with anticipation to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Clodagh Crumlish