Dear Sir/Madam,

I am applying for the Byrne Wallace Trainee Solicitor Programme 2022. It is my intention to begin the FE1’s in 2022 and begin the path of becoming a solicitor. I would be honoured to have Byrne Wallace join me on this path and help to shape me into an exceptional solicitor. I recently graduated from NUIG with a 2.1 in the BA in Law & History. I am currently completing the one-year Bachelor of Laws programme in NUIG. I am striving to achieve a 1.1 grade in my LLB and will have attained this by the time this Intern Programme commences.

I have gained the necessary skills for a legal career through both voluntary and work experience. I was a voluntary CÉIM leader for two years during my undergraduate degree. This role involved facilitating 1st year law students learning, creating weekly sessions in which they could discuss their law studies. My team and I planned activities that allowed the students to interact with their fellow classmates in a small classroom setting. Examples of such activities include games of who wants to be a millionaire (with all questions being related to their law studies), human bingo and more. I learned invaluable leadership and teamwork skills during this time. This role is relevant to Byrne Wallace as it involved working with others as a team, as well as public speaking. These are invaluable skills to possess in a legal profession. The experience also gave me the opportunity to be creative and innovative when coming up with ideas for the sessions that would aid the students' learning, which is an energy I would bring into the workplace.

I also have work experience as a tour guide for the Smithwicks Experience Kilkenny. This role boosted my confidence greatly, shaping me into a fluent and confident public speaking. This skill would be invaluable when speaking to clients and helping them gain understanding of the area of law at hand. Public speaking is an important skill to have in order to communicate as effectively as possible. I have work experience also in the area of food and beverage serving, which has equipped me with time management skills. I recently achieved the President's Award from NUI Galway for voluntary work. I was very proud of this achievement as I feel it showcases my belief in helping others and sharing my knowledge for the benefit of others. It also displays my ability to work with others harmoniously and effectively.

My interest in the law stemmed from my involvement in my secondary school's Public Access to Law team. I was awarded the role of a solicitor, which entailed studying a fictional case and arguing the facts with other Irish teams in the Criminal Court of Justice. My team and I placed third out of 40 teams in this competition. We then competed in the International Mock Trials in New York. As team captain, I conversed with my team of 20 girls, guiding them through the intense competition. Our team worked well as I ensured that every member of the team was comfortable with their role, whether they were a witness or a lawyer. I ensured this by up keeping communication with every team member, so that everyone's roles coordinated and there were no discrepancies in our arguments. I took on these skills I had acquired once again in 2018, when I competed in NUI Galway's Moot Court competition. This was an easier feat as it was only myself and one other teammate. These team activities were as rewarding as they were challenging, and they showed me that a career in law would be the correct path.

I hope that you find my application fits the requirements for this role. I hope to hear from you soon.

Kind regards,

Clodagh Killian.