Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to apply for the 2019 traineeship with Byrne Wallace. I would like to do my traineeship at Byrne Wallace as I believe it is the perfect organisation for me to begin laying the foundations of a long and successful legal career. I graduated with a degree in Law &

Economics from NUI Maynooth in 2011, and since then I have been working in financial services in Spain and in Mexico. I returned to Ireland two years and have been preparing for the FE1 exams while working first as an Aviation Paralegal for Maples and Calder and now as a Paralegal at Credit Suisse.

I believe what makes me stand out from other candidates is that I’m different, I have a history of doing things differently and doing so successfully. When it came to choosing a university to go to, I chose National University of Ireland, Maynooth ahead of more established universities, as I wanted to experience a fresher approach to an established field of study. I also wanted to go somewhere where I wouldn´t know anybody, therefore pushing me out of my comfort zone and leaving me with no option but to meet new types of people. After university I decided to take a different path to my fellow law graduates, and it allowed me show my skills. First I moved to Madrid, despite not speaking Spanish, and worked in a business development role in wealth management. My role was to assist in the number of new clients brought on, and in my first year I was second in Europe in terms of number of new clients acquired. After two years in Madrid, I took the decision to move to Mexico City, an unknown quantity for me but an exciting challenge nonetheless. I spent three years in Mexico City working in business development for a wealth management company, and once again my results were among the best in the company. I helped to the company to re-consider how they went about acquiring new clients, and what clients they targeted, which led to the company changing their procedure across all offices. The good thing about business development/sales is that it is very easy to measure performance, the numbers speak for themselves. While in Mexico, I undertook a project that is my proudest achievement. I am the founder of the Irish Mexican Chamber of Commerce ([www.irishmexicanchamber.com](http://www.irishmexicanchamber.com)), which I have discussed in the application which this cover letter accompanies.

I am drawn to Byrne Wallace because the firm has a reputation of providing an excellent

programme to trainees, involving significant exposure to large transactions and complex issues, and because I believe that I can reach my long-term objectives at the firm, beyond my traineeship. The firm has a number of industry leading departments, such as life sciences and technology, which means there are various sectors where one can become a leading solicitor surrounded by excellent peers. It is a firm that isn’t resting on its laurels and continues to grow and excel, as evidenced by the fact that the firm was awarded the Chambers Europe Ireland Client Service Award 2017.

I would cherish the opportunity to learn and grow in Byrne Wallace, and I believe that the fact that I have a different path to date to most Byrne Wallace trainees will enable me to make a positive contribution and add value to the organisation. I hope that you will find my CV to display the skills I have learned while working in different industries in different countries. I believe my previous work experience lends itself well to the work of a legal professional. I have the necessary skills and drive to forge a successful career as a commercial solicitor, and I hope to do so at Byrne Wallace.

I thank you for your time and consideration.

Kind regards

Conor Hennessy