Conor Irvine

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Crona McLoughlin   
HR Administrator   
ByrneWallace   
88 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2

Dear Ms. McLoughlin,

I am a recent UCD law (BCL) graduate and FE-1 candidate. I have currently passed four of the FE-1s and am awaiting results for the October 2017 sitting.

I am writing this letter to express my interest in becoming a Byrne Wallace trainee. I believe that I have many characteristics that would make me a strong candidate for the position. I am a committed, hard-working and determined individual. I have demonstrated this is my previous work experience, through establishing my own small business, and from playing an elite level of ice hockey.

During my five-month internship at Gleeson McGrath Baldwin Solicitors I gained a wide breadth of experience in different practice areas. I was involved primarily in the firm’s litigation practice as this was their biggest area but I was also involved in their commercial, conveyancing, family, asset management and probate practices. I found that I was most drawn to the commercial practice as I found it the most dynamic and interesting. Consequently, a traineeship with one of Ireland’s leading commercial firms would be a tremendously rewarding and fulfilling experience.

During my three-month summer internship with Ernst & Young in 2015 I worked in the firm’s audit practice. Although this was not strictly legal work experience, I feel that my time with EY was valuable because it helped develop interpersonal and professional communication skills through my interaction with clients. Furthermore, it was a very team oriented work environment with strict deadlines that would translate naturally to a position at a commercial law firm.

My work experience with the Canadian Institute of Resources Law at the University of Calgary developed my legal research skills through my involvement with the publication of the Canada Energy Law Service. My task was to conduct research and then present them to the rest of the team. It would then be considered for publication, which is a guide to the regulatory regime of the Albertan oil and gas industry.

Finally, I have shown initiative by starting my own business while still in secondary school. My brother and I never had the opportunity to play on the same ice hockey team when we were growing up. This was because of our age difference. We are very close and wanted to play on the same team. We decided that we would start our own hockey league in the spring after the regular ice hockey season was over. We organised everything ourselves, from booking the ice, collecting the money, designing and ordering the jerseys, making the teams, obtaining insurance, incorporating the league and hiring referees. This was an invaluable experience. In our first season, we went from a league with 40 players to growing to have more than 120 in our third. Our business strategy was so successful that since we stopped operating the local hockey club has started their own spring league to meet the demand in the community. This experience opened my eyes to the challenges of starting a small business and the thrill of seeing it succeed. This was the primary reason for why I wanted to pursue a career in commercial law. The idea of helping businesses become more successful by helping them with their legal needs is something I feel very passionate about.

If given the opportunity, I believe my personality, work experience and drive for success would be an asset to the culture at Byrne Wallace.

I have enclosed my application materials for your review, and would welcome the opportunity to discuss this position. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Conor Irvine