Castletreasure,

Douglas,

Cork.

18/10/2018

Byrne Wallace Solicitors,

88 Harcourt St,

Saint Kevin's,

Dublin,

D02 DK18.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like the opportunity to train as a corporate solicitor at Byrne Wallace. I have completed my final year of law at University College Cork and sat four of the FE-1 examinations in October 2018. My area of interest has firmly settled on commercial and company law. I have a strategic mind and I enjoy thinking about how companies engage with one another and the law. I am also interested in the broader field of economics, increasing my interest in this area.

My academic record shows a consistently high level of achievement, I received first class honours in my BCL degree. It is clear from my cv that I am not only interested in studying law, but in its practice. Building on my secondary level interest in public speaking, I have competed in moot courts throughout my college career, relishing the team work and the competitive nature of the debates. Wining the A&L Goodbody UCC Law Society Moot Court Competition in 2016 has been the highlight of my academic career to date.

My experience of collaboration in the moot court competitions has been enhanced by my involvement in the UCC Law Society and in the Fianna Fáil Society. I have enjoyed the responsibility which has come with key committee roles, and in particular embraced the challenge of being chairman of the Fianna Fáil Society. This leadership role required that I use my interpersonal skills to team build within the society, and to effect reforms which were required for the society’s long term benefit. College societies can be fractious environments, but I like working with people to achieve a common goal, and was able to do that within the society by investing time in relationship building. While I am a self-motivated individual, being chairman asked me to draw on my collaborative skills to achieve a common beneficial goal. I have always been interested in politics and current affairs, and read widely in those areas. Reading outside the law has certainly improved my strategic thinking. More broadly, my active role in Fianna Fáil reflects my belief in public service, and engaging in a meaningful way to effect change in Irish society. I believe we all have a part to play in improving our communities, and this is one of the ways I hope to make a difference.

In addition to the chairmanship of the Fianna Fáil society, my role as finance officer for the Law Society is one which indicated my peers trust in me and my integrity. I am proud to have fulfilled this responsibility in a society with a long tradition in the university. I was successful in taking the Society from an initial deficit to a surplus at the end of the college year.

My part-time employment has allowed me to work with a range of people, from diverse backgrounds. I have enjoyed this aspect of my work in supermarkets and delis, a lot can be achieved when everyone makes an effort – sometimes that means working hard so that everyone finishes their shift on time, sometimes means working late when there has been a challenge instore. I have learned through this work experience that I am the sort of colleague who will help to solve a problem with time or ideas.

As someone who regularly sets themselves challenges, and expects high standards in terms of results, Byrne Wallace’s reputation for excellence in legal advice is highly attractive to me. The firm has shown a commitment to investing significant resources into trainees and associates. The impressive clientele the firm possesses and the numerous accolades they have received, make Byrne Wallace extremely attractive to a law graduate.

I would value the opportunity to talk to you in person, and would be happy to come for an interview.

Yours sincerely,

Daire O’ Herlihy.