After my Leaving Certificate, I studied Law in Maynooth University, a subject which always interested me. After four years in Maynooth, I achieved a 2.1 and I had the chance to take part in various moot courts, hypothetical advocacy assignments and received a basis of knowledge in most legal subjects. I was lucky to receive an internship in ByrneWallace following the completion of my degree.

In ByrneWallace, I spent a thoroughly enjoyable month in the firm’s banking department. I helped prepare a bible of documents for a client with a team; took part in the department’s internal meetings; drafted legal articles for internal distribution and conducted legal research for trainees and fee-earners.

Following the completion of the Summer Internship Programme, I decided to take the opportunity to do a Graduate Visa in the U.S. I went to Austin, Texas for a year. I found it difficult to secure an internship or similar position in a law firm in Austin as many employers wanted someone who would be guaranteed to be around longer than my one-year visa. I did however secure employment in PacoTech Inc, as a data analyst, sorting through confidential contracts and redacting information as needed. This job needed a keen eye and strong attention to detail, as it included hundreds of documents a day and thousands of pages. Following my time in Pacotech, I worked part-time as a marketing director for a company which provided soccer tournaments throughout the U.S. as well as working as a barista in Starbucks as I had previous experience of this in Dublin.

While working in an extremely busy Starbucks store, I was creating and sending posters and editing a website for the soccer company. Due to the low income, I was receiving from these positions, I secured a job as a Payment Resolution Specialist for LegalZoom. is a unique business offering people the chance to set up their own businesses and everything that is needed for it, including acting as their Registered Agent at a reduced price than that of a lawyer. I would have to bring in up to $80,000 a month to secure a bonus and would be in contact with approximately a hundred customers a day, helping with whatever queries they may have. While there, I had the opportunity to progress up the company, but my visa ended in November 2017, so I returned home to Ireland.

Since my return to Ireland, I have worked as a full-time carer to my mother, who was diagnosed with motor neurone disease in 2016. I prepared all her tablets and food, helped her around the house and brought her to any appointments she may have. Unfortunately, due to this commitment, I have not had the chance to secure a job in the legal sphere. While taking care of my mother, I have also been studying for my FE-1’s and passed Criminal, Constitutional, Property and Tort in the October 2018 sitting and hope to sit the remaining four in March 2019.

After the death of my mother in October, I have returned to work as a barista in Starbucks on a part-time basis, in order to give myself time to study for the remaining FE-1’s. Following the March sitting, I plan on securing an internship or paralegal position in order to re-integrate myself in the field of law and prepare myself for a traineeship.