

Byrne Wallace LLP,
88 Harcourt Street,
Dublin 2,
D02 DK18.

02/10/2021

Re: Trainee Solicitor Vacancy

To whom it may concern,

I appreciate that you will receive many applications and considering the particular economic circumstances we operate in, I understand that it is a difficult time for recruitment in the legal services industry.

I am a first-class honours LL.M. in Public Law graduate. I have passed all 8 FE-1 exams and I am now keen to transfer my skills and knowledge to a role in a legal firm and progress to a traineeship.

From October 2018 to February 2021, I worked in financial services; as a Financial Data Analyst (KPMG) and with AIB as a Bank Official. Both of these roles involved working on the Bank's non-performing loan portfolios. I believe my experience in financial services to date will be of benefit to Byrne Wallace's commercial and restructuring practice. In February 2021, I moved to the HSE to a position supporting the work of the General Manager of Primary Care in Galway.

The reason why I am applying to Byrne Wallace is the emphasis the firm places on wide and diverse practice areas. While I am interested in Banking and Finance, I do want to diversify into other areas I haven't had a chance to experience yet. I would particularly like to gain exposure in the Energy & Renewables section which is quite topical at the moment and is a niche practice area that most firm's do not offer. Byrne Wallace is also one of the few firms I have seen that practices in Health & Social Care Law. From my current position working with the General Manager of Primary Care I would love to opportunity to add to the team by providing an insight to the inner workings of the management of the HSE. The chance to gain experience in the firm's varied work structure is a huge draw for a hopeful trainee like myself.

Outside of work, I am a legal team member of the Equality for Children charity – an organisation setup to lobby for legislative change in the areas of Assisted Human Reproduction and Surrogacy. I was previously a member of the Board of Ability West in Galway which provides services to persons with disabilities in the West of Ireland. I have also had an adaption of my Master's thesis published by Kings College London Law Review on the area of domestic violence. It has recently been cited in a report commissioned by the Police Authority of Ireland and also quoted in a briefing to the Northern Irish Assembly. After the article was published, I was asked to join the Journal's editing team as a Senior Editor.

Further, I am in receipt of an Access Grant from the Law Society of Ireland for attendance on the Professional Practice Courses 1&2 (PPC1 and PPC2) which will cover the fees of same.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to speaking with you to discuss my application further. Please find enclosed my CV for your consideration.

Yours faithfully,
Darragh Sheehy