

21 September 2016

To whom it may concern,

I am interested in applying for the Trainee Solicitor Programme which is offered annually by Byrne Wallace. I first became aware of the Programme last year while pursuing a Master's degree in law at University College Dublin. I met with current trainees at your firm during a law fair on the campus and had an in depth discussion with them about their experiences working for the firm. Following this, I decided to attend the Trainee Open Day held at your offices and took the opportunity to engage in discussions with various members of staff, most of whom had diverse backgrounds and were at varying stages of their careers. Afterwards, given the approachable and helpful attitude of the employees, the description of the work undertaken at the firm and the clear rapport between the colleagues, I was utterly convinced that Byrne Wallace was the firm with which I desired to develop my career in law.

Unfortunately, my application for a position in the Traineeship Programme last year was unsuccessful. However, far from being a negative experience, failing to meet the standard necessary to gain employment with Byrne Wallace proved to be a source of great motivation for me. I have since gone on to achieve First Class Honours in my LL.M. and, fearing that a lack of legal experience was holding me back, have undertaken employment in the Legal Compliance Department at Lidl Ireland GmbH in order to further hone my legal skills with relevant work experience.

Both my undergraduate degree in Civil Law, and the LL.M. from which I have recently graduated have provided me with an extensive knowledge of the law in areas such as administrative law, banking law, data protection, environmental law, international tax law, international alternative dispute resolution and intellectual property rights, to name a few. Furthermore, I have had the opportunity throughout college to pursue a variety of part time jobs on top of my college work which has equipped me with an array of transferable skills, and provided me with the opportunity to work under my own initiative and as a part of a team where necessary, and has also had the effect instilling me with an unwavering drive and work ethic.

Not only am I confident that Byrne Wallace is the firm within which my legal career would thrive, I am equally confident that I have a considerable amount to offer the firm. Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you at a later date.

Yours sincerely,
Declan Gardiner