

Deirdre Ryan

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Re: Application for Trainee Solicitor Programme

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to submit my curriculum vitae (CV) to apply for a position on the Trainee Solicitor with ByrneWallace.

By way of background, I am a Graduate of BCL (Law & Society) at Dublin City University (DCU) and currently work as a Paralegal in the Project and Data Management Unit in Arthur Cox, having previously worked as a paralegal in the Litigation and Dispute Resolution team. During my time in DCU and as a Paralegal in Arthur Cox, it has become clear to me that law, and particularly corporate law, is the direction I wish my career to take.

ByrneWallace is well established as a leading law firm and has a marked presence and excellent reputation internationally through its many foreign clients, Lexcel accreditation and membership of ALFA International. Furthermore, through word of mouth, I have been consistently impressed by reports of Trainee Solicitor Programme (the Programme) in ByrneWallace, the opportunity it presents to work on the largest scale and most challenging transactions in this State, and the camaraderie and close bonds that exist among the intakes. In my current position, I have been involved in an ongoing large scale litigation matter, in which your firm is also acting, and I have been highly impressed by the quality of work and professional standards presented by your Litigation and Dispute Resolution team in particular. Collectively, these are the reasons why I have decided to apply for a position on the Programme as it will provide me with the best quality training and development available in the country, allowing me to fulfil my ambition to become a leading corporate lawyer.

I have always been an ambitious individual, actively seeking new opportunities for personal and professional development. Primarily, I am an active team player, and during my time in University I was a member of and held various roles in numerous clubs and societies, such as the Law Society and Global Brigades (a volunteer organisation for poverty alleviation). My membership of the Law Society led to my interest in Moot Court, where I won numerous awards such as 'Overall Best Individual Speaker' in a competition adjudicated by Mr. Justice Hedigan. Equally, I am a natural leader and further demonstrated this skill as a Caseworker on the American Innocence Project in Flagstaff, Arizona in 2014, where I worked on cases of wrongful conviction. The experience I gained in this position, while second to none, proved to me that I am more suited to a corporate environment. My society involvement in DCU also extended to volunteer activities and my membership of Global Brigades led to my participation in volunteer work in Ghana, alongside a team of 40 other volunteers.

While I thoroughly enjoy my current role, I strongly believe that I have more to contribute as a solicitor. As one of Ireland's largest law firms, I feel ByrneWallace has lots of potential for growth both professionally and personally. As you will note from my CV, I can bring with me to the Programme a number of personal characteristics which I believe are paramount to a successful career in corporate law. For instance, I have a strategic mindset, a strong ambition to succeed and unparalleled communication skills. I have demonstrated these skills during my time as a Legal Assistant in Matheson, as a Paralegal in Arthur Cox and in personal relationships also. Furthermore, I believe that my approachable and patient nature, in addition to my ability to maintain good client relationships, are indicative of my aptitude for business development. For example, I have had significant input in a number of matters involving high profile clients and have excelled in all client related communications and tasks assigned to me.

I have a strong work ethic and believe that the approach I have adopted in my career to date of undertaking all tasks with enthusiasm, positivity and an industrious approach sets me aside from other potential candidates. If successful in my application for a position on the Programme, I will endeavour to continue this approach in ByrneWallace. Additionally, having undertaken volunteer activities in the past, both nationally and internationally, I was enthused to hear of ByrneWallace's extensive CSR activities. The Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association and Special Olympics Ireland are charities that I have previously assisted and believe your involvement with same is indicative of the company culture and values within your firm. This is important to me and I feel that my personality and work ethic encompasses the values illustrated above.

Given the opportunity, I believe I could make a significant contribution to the future success of ByrneWallace and would be obliged if you would give my application herein due consideration.

I look forward to your response.

Yours faithfully



DEIRDRE RYAN