

**Ms. Deirdre O'Donnell**

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Graduate Recruitment Manager,  
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**RE: Trainee Solicitor Programme**

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Deirdre O'Donnell and I wish to apply for the trainee solicitor programme at ByrneWallace. I am a recent graduate of University College Cork, having completed my degree in BCL Clinical in May 2020, achieving an upper 2H1 grade. I have successfully passed one of the eight FE-1 examinations, having sat the Tort examination in August 2020. I plan to sit a further three examinations in the upcoming November sitting.

Unique to the BCL Clinical degree, I was privileged to be able to undertake a placement period in a law firm for my third year. My time spent with Murphy Lynam Solicitors gave me an insight into the day-to-day practice of the law in areas such as conveyancing (both residential and commercial) and general litigation, as well as interact with numerous clients and help them with their respective queries. This experience allowed me to improve upon existing skills as well as develop new skills, such as effective communication and drafting legal documents. As a testament to my work ethic, I was invited to continue in my position within the firm for the Summer months. My 12-month placement with Murphy Lynam Solicitors assured me that law is the career path I want to pursue.

I wish to apply to the firm's trainee programme as I believe the vast selection of practice areas in which the firm provides expertise align to my own areas of interest in law, which includes Data Protection. I thoroughly enjoyed my time studying Privacy & Data Protection law in the final year of my degree and such is reflected in receiving a 1H1 grade in my examination. With ByrneWallace having a specialist expert legal team dedicated to data protection, I would be grateful for the opportunity to not only work alongside professionals who are the leading experts in this field but also learn from them.

An opportunity to work in a firm like ByrneWallace opens doors to sectors of the law which are not available in every legal firm. I would welcome the opportunity to work with a diverse range of clients in a fast-paced environment. The opportunity to complete a number of rotations in various different areas of the law would allow me gain an excellent foundation from which to develop my career and help me identify the direction I want my career to take.

The commitment to teamwork fostered in the firm allows trainees to be involved in the work from the start, making it apparent that as a trainee you are considered to be a valued member of the team and a part of the future of ByrneWallace. The firm's approach of empowering trainees to achieve their very

best whilst offering the support, training and guidance to do so personally appeals to me as I feel it would be the optimum environment within which to progress and achieve my own career objectives. Further, the commitment to client care and to deliver quality results to clients is much in line with my own personal values. I very much believe that providing the best service to clients is essential.

If selected for your trainee solicitor programme, I would ensure to make the most of this rewarding opportunity to develop my skillset and legal knowledge. I would be grateful if you would give my application favourable consideration in your selection process.

Yours faithfully,

Deirdre O'Donnell