Diarmaid Leahy

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19/10/2017

Graduate Recruitment Team

Byrne Wallace

88 Harcourt St

Dublin 2

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a final year Law with Economics student in University College Dublin (UCD). I wish to apply for Byrne Wallace’s Trainee Development Programme. I learnt about the trainee programme initially from speaking to Byrne Wallace representatives at the UCD Law Fair in 2016. Unfortunately I was unable to apply for the firm’s Summer Internship Programme this past summer as I was living and studying in New Zealand between February and July 2017. However upon my return to college I once again spoke with Byrne Wallace representatives at the UCD Law Fair on October 4th of this year, who strongly encouraged me to apply for the Trainee Programme. I found information on the firm’s website and on LinkedIn useful also.

Byrne Wallace is a firm whose culture I believe would suit me and similarly I believe that I would suit your culture. Having spoken one of your trainees, Emer Squires, at the UCD Law fair on October 4th, her enthusiasm and positivity for the firm was obvious and this is naturally something which is great to see for a student trying to differentiate between firms. She spoke to me about your Open Evening this past Tuesday 17th October, which I unfortunately could not attend but several friends of mine attended and spoke in glowing terms about the positive atmosphere within the firm and the friendly nature of all the employees present on the night. I have a keen interest in social justice, which started in school at Belvedere College with the SVP and continued with my involvement in UCD Volunteer Overseas’ project in Haiti in 2015. Byrne Wallace’s own emphasis on social justice and corporate social responsibility in their culture is something that appeals to me. I really admire the encouragement the firm gives to their employees to give back a little and organise sports and social events in aid of great causes, such as the recent Boat quiz and raffle for Our Lady’s Children’s Hospital, Crumlin. It is something that I would love to contribute to at some stage, if I were lucky enough to become a trainee at the firm in the future. The importance the firm places on embracing technology in order to ensure that their clients are best served is also impressive.

I attach my CV to my application which illustrates my past experience in roles involving both responsibility and working as part of a team. This includes my jobs in Gosman’s Retail Fish Market in Montauk, New York during the summer of 2016, with O’Neill’s Sports and with Colaiste na BhFiann as part of a residential Gaeltacht course. I believe that my experience in these roles is particularly relevant to Byrne Wallace because of the emphasis the firm places on client interaction and customer service, as seen by their recent, ‘Ireland Service Award’ in 2017. My 8 week internship this past summer in the AIB Legal Department, working as part of the Litigation Team gave me an excellent insight into teamwork and collaboration in a legal setting and also provided me with a great experience of the day to day work that is done in a commercial law firm. I see my joint degree of Law with Economics as being particularly applicable to the corporate and commercial work that Byrne Wallace do, as I believe combining the two subjects has given me a unique sense of commercial awareness. In my opinion I have demonstrated the skills required to suit a career in Byrne Wallace. I have shown adaptability and motivation by balancing two subjects during my degree. I have demonstrated initiative through my involvement in extra-curricular activities and UCD societies throughout my time in college, as well as pursuing the opportunity to partake in UCD’s International Exchange Programme and spending 6 months studying at the University of Auckland, New Zealand between February and July this year.

I am an ambitious person and I believe that a traineeship with Byrne Wallace would be an excellent opportunity for me. I feel as though I am a good fit for Byrne Wallace and can only promise to absolutely dedicate myself to the role of trainee and to the firm and make the most of the opportunity should it materialise.

Yours Sincerely

Diarmaid Leahy