16 October 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to apply for the ByrneWallace Trainee Programme. Since graduating, I have been eager to advance a career as a corporate law solicitor and this traineeship at ByrneWallace is an exciting opportunity to be professionally trained with one of Ireland's largest and most progressive law firms.

I hold a First Class Honours B.A. in European Studies from Trinity College Dublin and a First Class Honours Postgraduate Diploma in Law from Law Society of Ireland. This diploma has prepared me academically to sit all 8 FE1 examinations, while fostering the development of my practical skills in research, negotiation, presentation, and legal writing. I plan to sit 3 FE1s in the November online sitting, namely EU, Contract and Company Law, and plan to pass all 8 FE1s in time to start a training contract for the year 2021/2022.

I have recently acquired an internship position with a 'Top Tier' international law firm, Philip Lee, commencing in January 2021, where I hope to build my knowledge and skills in commercial law practice. In addition to this, I have previously completed a four-month internship in the banking and property department at BHSM, a premium, full-service commercial law firm. This dynamic role involved conducting legal research for ongoing team projects, preparing and drafting legal documents and correspondence, liaising with clients, the CRO, and Courts Services, and providing administrative support for conveyancing and banking transactions. This internship allowed me to gain exposure to the quality and type of work that is required in commercial law practice and cemented my commitment and interest to pursue a career in this field.

I have researched a number of firms and their traineeship opportunities, putting time and effort into understanding what makes one firm different from the next. In this regard, ByrneWallace stands out as an extremely desirable firm to train with, not only for its renowned reputation, but for the environment for professional growth and development which it cultivates. It is clear from trainee testimonials that ByrneWallace provides trainees with a strong educational culture, supported by the invaluable expertise of its partners and associates. I also admire the firm's extensive pro bono and community-based work which it carries out under its Corporate Responsibility Programme, and I would be very interested in working with a firm which gives back to its community.

I would be grateful that you consider my application for this traineeship. I am extremely interested in training with a forward-thinking and innovative firm and I believe that, in reference to my academic background, relevant work experience, skills, and interests, as outlined in my application, I reflect the core qualities which ByrneWallace looks for in its prospective trainees.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours faithfully,

Ellen Ashe