Emer Rooney

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Beth Onslow,

HR Generalist,

Byrne Wallace,

88 Harcourt Street,

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Dear Ms Onslow,

 My name is Emer Rooney, and I am writing to apply for a position on the Byrne Wallace Trainee Programme. By way of introduction, I graduated from University College Dublin with a 2.1 in Business and Law in September 2018 and am currently employed as a Legal Analyst in Herbert Smith Freehills Belfast Office. I am committed to undertaking the FE1 examinations starting in March 2019 with the intention of beginning a training contract in 2020.

I aspire to train as a commercial solicitor with Byrne Wallace for a number of reasons. I am ambitious to develop my legal career and admire the high acclaim that your firm has been given; receiving the Chambers Europe Ireland Client Service Award 2017. It is clear that Byrne Wallace is a leader within the commercial law field, both nationally and internationally, across a wide range of practice areas. I am aware that a traineeship with Byrne Wallace will provide exposure to high profile, complex legal issues and top clients. After completing a summer internship in a financial services law firm, I am eager to train in a law firm that offers a broad range of practice areas for trainee rotations. Byrne Wallace’s diversity of expertise covering all significant areas of Irish law is ideally suited to this. Your firm’s membership in ALFA International and various links with European, American and Australasian firms also greatly excites me. This provides an opportunity to be involved in multijurisdictional transactions and a global legal network, promising training that will consistently keep my knowledge and expertise ahead of the curve.

I completed a two month Summer Internship in Walkers Global Dublin office in July and August of this year, carrying out rotations in the Investment Funds, Financial Regulatory and Corporate departments. Due to the variation of departments, I was offered a unique insight into a number of different corporate law elements. I was given the opportunity to work on exciting and complex tasks, in particular, I worked alongside a Senior Associate in the Corporate department, preparing notes and research on Financial Assistance before giving a Presentation to the Asset Finance team. This experience confirmed my ambition to pursue a career in a fast-paced corporate environment such as Byrne Wallace.

My internship and current employment, both in highly regarded law firms, have exposed me to the reality of a career as a Solicitor in a corporate law firm – dynamic, challenging and demanding. As a Legal Analyst, working on an intense case for a high profile matter, I am required to work to tight deadlines and quickly adapt to an ever-changing working environment. My involvement as part of a team in this dynamic environment has enabled me to further develop my attention-to-detail and time management skills. Such skills are directly transferable to a traineeship with Byrne Wallace where emphasis is placed on the importance of team work in delivering innovative and practical solutions for clients.

My degree in Business and Law has developed both analytical and advisory legal skills combined with the numeracy and financial literacy of a business degree. The integration of both disciplines, I believe, provides an ideal foundation to entering the commercial law sphere. Through my Business studies, I have gained an acute sense of commercial awareness and business acumen, knowledge which I could bring forward to a traineeship in Byrne Wallace, where you endeavour to understand clients’ business needs. From researching your firm I have come to appreciate the importance placed on supporting, protecting and promoting client interests. I have a strong work ethic, displayed by my continuous employment in the service sector where I have acted as a team leader and delegator amongst my peers, delivering a first-class professional service to clients. Both my hospitality and legal experience to date have taught me the importance of placing a client’s needs first. This knowledge can be usefully and meaningfully applied and developed through a Traineeship with your firm.

I have always had an interest in social justice and charity, my experience of which includes my role as Philanthropy officer on the UCD Commerce & Economics Society committee in my final year of college, and my continued membership with Saint Vincent de Paul in UCD. My involvement in the C&E society required innovation and organisational skills when approaching businesses for sponsorship and planning fundraising events, skills that are directly transferable to the trainee programme. Moreover, committee involvement increased my communication, time management and team work skills, all essential to the team environment and ‘open door policy’ Byrne Wallace strives to foster within the firm. Having researched your firm, and the dedication you give to being a responsible member of the community supporting numerous projects including St John of God, Breast Cancer Ireland and many others, I would relish the opportunity to work with an organisation which mirrors my values of social responsibility, on a corporate level.

I believe that I have demonstrated the determination, ability and commitment you are looking for. I have attached a copy of my CV highlighting relevant experience to the Trainee Programme. I am available to contact at all times for interview or if you have any queries about my application. Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Emer Rooney