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Sinead Fox

HR Administrator

ByrneWallace

88 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2

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Dear Ms Fox,

After having met with members of your firm at your Trainee Solicitor Open Evening in October, I was highly impressed by the vigour and variety of the work at Byrne Wallace. For this reason, I am keen to be considered for the Byrne Wallace Summer Internship Programme as advertised on your website. I am a final year student of the Bachelor of Civil Law (European) degree at University College Dublin, predicted to receive a 2:1 honours degree. Being accepted onto your summer internship programme would be an excellent opportunity for me to continue to pursue my goal of a career as a solicitor.

From my work experience, I saw a law firm’s work was intellectually stimulating while leaving scope for creativity as new arguments and precedents are made and set. The variety really excites me and forms the principle reason as to why I’d like to be a lawyer in ByrneWallace. I am drawn to corporate law as a field which is a key driver in the economy. The intellectual challenge that comes with working on corporate transactions really attracts me to this area of law. This summer I spent time at Millar McCall Wylie LLP where I assisted in a matter involving a hotel that was under administration. I was able to witness first-hand the balance of technical ability, client management and commercial awareness that solicitors need to have to manage their clients and grow their business. My time at Millar McCall Wylie as well as my desire to be informed has allowed me to build upon my commercial acumen, and to recognise the importance of an in-depth understanding of each individual client’s business, in order to ensure they receive the highest standard of legal advice possible.

I have developed My teamwork and time management skills through membership of a number of orchestras as an accomplished, Grade 8 level double bassist. As Treasurer and Social Media Manager of the UCD Symphony Orchestra, and committee member of both UCD Law Society and UCD Erasmus Student Network, as well as further developing my teamwork skills, I have also demonstrated and developed strong leadership and communication skills.

Having spent the third year of my degree abroad in Toulouse I have developed an international outlook which I understand is important to a firm like ByrneWallace given the high profile national and international clients the firm works with. While in France I attained my Diplôme d'Etudes du Droit de l'Union Européenne (Diploma in European Union Law) I chose to study in France to further develop my French language skills, and to gain a more in depth understanding of fields including EU and Competition law, a practice area in which ByrneWallace excels. Studying in French was a challenging, but rewarding learning experience, and I enjoyed the opportunity to work outside my comfort zone.

I find it very impressive that two of your partners have recently been awarded the International Client Awards 2016 for Ireland. This gives me reassurance that ByrneWallace holds a client first mantra, providing an environment in which I can thrive. A culture that empowers the individual fosters curiosity and delivers a team-oriented approach to deliver practical and bold solutions. Both the profile of the clients and international element appeal to me, thus I believe that ByrneWallace can be the platform of my legal education.

ByrneWallace’s commitment to social responsibilities especially with regards its support of Special Olympic Ireland speaks to me on a personal level and I really value the firm's contribution in helping us raise money for Temple Street Children's Hospital. I want to be able to give back to my community when I qualify.

From conversing with associates and trainees from ByrneWallace at the UCD Internship Fair and your Trainee Open Evening, the importance of teamwork, developing cohesion and collegiality seems very important to your firm. This is one of my own tenets. I love being surrounded by a supportive, energetic team. This has been instilled from a young age through my participation in orchestras. I’ve cultivated this from work and activities I’ve undertaken as a young adult and plan to continue to nurture this.

My experience of the law both in Ireland and in an international context has served to enhance my interest in ByrneWallace as an internationally recognised leading Irish law firm, and I am inspired by the diversity of the firm’s work, especially your ability to offer your clients connections to other parts of the world via ALFA International. My passion for corporate law and interest in both local and international contexts, combined with my strong work ethic, teamwork and communication skills make me a strong candidate for this internship, and if selected I would make the most of the opportunity to learn from the experience and make myself a valuable asset to the team.

I am available for interview at your convenience and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Emma Quinn