

27/10/2024

To whom it may concern,

My name is Eoin Gaffey, and I am writing to express an interest in securing a training contract within your firm. I have completed my final year of my Law LLB in Trinity College Dublin and have a keen and committed interest in becoming a solicitor. I will sit four Fe1's in October, and I will sit the remaining four in March.

My four years of legal studies has provided me with a wide range of experience and knowledge that I hope to further develop by taking part in your traineeship. My passion for studying law was sparked by the Public Access to Law competition that I took part in whilst in secondary school. This mock trial gave me an early insight into the legal profession and that passion has been sustained throughout my college experience.

Throughout my four years in Trinity, I maintained a strong upper class 2:1 average, having received firsts in several modules, including Company Law, EU Law, Constitutional Law, and Administrative Law. I was runner up in McCann FitzGerald's company law best essay, receiving a grade of 79%. I was a member of the winning group for Foundations of Law, receiving a grade of 78%. In a mooted event at the Criminal Courts of Justice in my third year, I won the best speaker award.

During my time at Trinity College, I had the opportunity to participate in the Erasmus Programme. I spent five months studying in Sciences Po, Paris. I received a first-class honours in the module "Corporate Law and Governance," which provided a focused examination of U.S. commercial law. This coursework equipped me with a nuanced perspective on how different legal systems approach corporate regulation, which will enable me to contribute effectively to Byrne Wallace's dynamic and international legal practice.

Working as a summer intern for the legal department in Dublin City Council, I gained experience in housing and licensing law, personal injuries and chancery litigation. Whilst this may seem distinct from the corporate world, there are several key aspects of my internship that can translate into an appreciation for corporate law. When working in housing law, cases often involved complex legal research and analysis. Sitting in on mediations offered me a valuable lesson in negotiating deals on behalf of clients whilst also enhancing my communication skills. The skills that I developed during this internship are highly transferable to corporate law, where intricate legal matters, such as contract disputes, mergers and acquisitions, and regulatory compliance, require in-depth research, analysis and precision.

My aspiration to join Byrne Wallace is driven by the firm's outstanding reputation, its commitment to excellence in corporate law, and its dynamic work environment. As one of Ireland's leading law firms, Byrne Wallace's impressive track record in handling complex, high-profile transactions and its role as a trusted advisor to major corporations resonate strongly with my ambition to work at the forefront of corporate law. I am attracted to the firm's commitment to diversity and inclusion, particularly by Byrne Wallace's hosting of the Pride Launch Party this June, in aid of Dublin Pride Run. Finally, my cousin, Kevin Armstrong, worked as a solicitor in Byrne Wallace's property department and has told me about the firm's inclusive and dynamic work environment, as well as the opportunity for personal growth and development.