

EVAN MCGOVERN

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Hiring Manager
Byrne Wallace Solicitors
88 Harcourt Street
Dublin 2

Re: Application of Evan McGovern for 2021 Traineeship Programme

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to you to apply for the 2021 Byrne Wallace Traineeship Program. I am a Law LL.B. Graduate of Trinity College Dublin. I have completed the Law Society of Ireland FE-1 examinations and am now keen to embark on my career in commercial law.

I am drawn to a career in commercial law because of my desire to work in a fast-paced and ever-changing business environment. I have a strong business orientation and am drawn to the overarching client-focus inherent in Byrne Wallace. In my future career, I would like to work alongside clients, tailoring legal solutions to meet their business needs. I prefer to achieve results through partnership and would relish the opportunity to work alongside some of the most skilled professionals in Ireland.

Furthermore, I believe I have both the experience and skills to be a successful commercial lawyer for Byrne Wallace. I have amassed invaluable experience working at several of Ireland's most prominent commercial law firms, experience which I could draw on and apply as a trainee and beyond at Byrne Wallace. In my previous positions, I grew comfortable working alongside fee earners and industry leading partners while performing tasks typically required at trainee level. As a paralegal in the busy Real Estate and Litigations departments of Eversheds Sutherland, I provided substantive administrative support to fee earners and partners in advising Ireland's largest residential builders, mixed-use developers, retailers, investment funds and banks. Similarly, during my summer internships in the Corporate Department at Dillon Eustace and the Construction & Projects Department at William Fry I was involved in high-profile and time-sensitive projects across all sectors including pharmaceuticals and health, technology and retail. I developed crucial skills including organisation, attention to detail, time management and workload prioritisation in addition to an innovative and enthusiastic attitude which will enable me to have a rewarding and successful career as a solicitor.

In addition to my legal experience, I also offer commercial astuteness and a strong business acumen. Nowadays, solicitors are increasingly required to be as adept at the "commercial" element of commercial law as they are the "law". While working in a sales role for two of the world's largest retailers in the Selfridges Group and Abercrombie & Fitch, I garnered a commercial nous which will help me advise clients to stay competitive while generating revenues for Byrne Wallace. At the end of the day, all law firms are private businesses who are in business to make money and I believe my experience in selling and customer-interaction will be a value add to your firm in this regard.

Similarly, through my involvement with the Law Society in Trinity and my local gaelic football team, Curraha, I have developed excellent interpersonal, communication and leadership skills. One of the unique features Byrne Wallace boasts is its collegiate environment and comparatively smaller composition of its department teams. Key to maintaining an environment like this is the ability for colleagues to harmoniously collaborate and work together. I believe I am well-rounded, empathetic and a team player who would seamlessly assimilate into the more intimate working atmosphere at the firm and confidently communicate with colleagues at all levels. Having worked for a number of leading commercial law firms, I can attest to the importance of building and maintaining professional relationships.

I am attracted to Byrne Wallace by the smaller intake of trainees, which I feel will offer me a bespoke training that is individually tailored to my particular interests. Small teams also suggest that I will have increased responsibility and operate as a de facto solicitor from day one in a supportive environment. More importantly, I will receive the excitement and challenge of working on high-value and complex transactions enabling me to assume large levels of responsibility and gain a better understanding of how my work relates to the entire transaction. This will allow me to hit the ground running upon qualification. During last week's trainee information webinar, I was also impressed with the panelists' accounts of career progression within the firm.

Lastly, the areas in which Byrne Wallace operates are becoming increasingly turbulent. In particular, enhanced intervention in the areas of data-protection and cyber-security is likely to be necessitated in future. Continued turbulence in the financial services sector is also likely. The importance of adopting a future-oriented approach in relation to such work, continuously monitoring the environment in which each client operates, is thus essential. Byrne Wallace is a firm which will endeavour to future-proof and adapt the services it provides in order to adequately meet client needs. As both the Irish and global competitive landscape is rapidly transformed by digitisation and globalisation, so too is the role of a commercial lawyer. Byrne Wallace's commitment to learning and development will enable me to not only stay relevant as a solicitor in the future but thrive and succeed as one.

I would be delighted to have the opportunity to further discuss the above at an interview. Thank you for your consideration.

Yours faithfully

Evan McGovern

