

Dear Beth Onslow,

I am studying International Commercial Law at UCD. I had the opportunity to attend your firm's presentation on Tuesday the 17th and decided to apply for your 'trainee solicitor programme'. I was immediately fascinated by your firm not only because you are the 'Law Firm of the year 2016' and 'Finalist Law Firm of the year 2017', which is very important to me as I am a very ambitious person, but also due to your high consideration for clients, which lead you to win the 'Ireland Client Service Award 2017'. I firmly believe that the way of approaching clients, especially understanding them and letting them feel safe once they open the office's door, plays a key role in this type of job and makes the difference between a law firm and a Law Firm. Moreover, despite having graduated in Italy, under the Civil Law legal system, I had also studied the Common Law legal system principles, following this up with a dissertation on the comparison of corporate governance between the Common Law and Civil Law legal systems, focusing on the agency cost between directors and shareholders in Australia. I developed a high level of knowledge in the corporate governance's field but also a great interest in commercial transactions and business law as a whole. Finally, by the end of my masters I will have attained the required knowledge and competence in order to become part of your firm.

Having been hit by a financial constraints, my family were not able to support my studies and for this reason I had to defer college. Then, I begun working to save up some money to finish my studies since I am a resolute person who always finishes what they start.

With regard to the Australian experience, there I broadened my horizons learning how to think outside the box and going beyond appearances, which are, in my opinion, fundamental skills for this profession. Having coped with a great deal of diverse people throughout that year, thanks to the large variety of jobs done, I could improve my interpersonal and communication skills.

During my last academic year, I was an intern at a criminal firm for a 6-month period. There I was motivated and stimulated as it was a very busy firm. Being Sicilian, there were a great number of criminal cases, quite often with multiple defendants represented by different lawyers. Once, the firm was involved in what is called "maxi-trial", which is a trial with more than 10 defendants, and we had just few weeks to prepare the whole case, since the client changed his previous lawyer one month before the terms deadline. I came out with the best solution for our client, which in the end was an exception which thwarted prosecutor to present the witnesses list and, as a consequence, the judge stated there were no more grounds to proceed the trial.

After graduating with a final grades of 107/110 and qualified as Juris Doctor, I was involved in a project sponsored by the Presidency of the Council of Minister of Italy addressed to young people from a socially and economic disadvantaged background, aged between 15 and 30. As a Lecturer, I was asked to involve individuals from different ages and with a scarce interest in such an important life aspects, which is the awareness of our right. I had to be creative in finding the right way to make it interesting, so I used a power point presentation and organized working groups and a little competition in order to force them to be the protagonist of these meetings.

In Dublin, I worked in Zara as Sales Assistant during the Christmas Eve. The shop was always busy and quiet after there was a shortage of clothes. So, I had to deal with customers in order to find them the best solution to suit their need as soon as I could since we were not able to spend too much time with each of them.

Back to Sicily, I started my traineeship in an International Law Firm on May. I worked in a team of three, dealing with corporate cases. I wrote many legal documents, summons above all, and carried on a great deal of legal research. I was fully involved in all strategy decisions and allowed to negotiate independently with companies or other firms.

For all these reason, I hold the view that I am an ideal candidate for your firm as a trainee.

Yours faithfully,

Federico Nicolosi