Gloria Nkencho

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Dear Sir or Madam,

My name is Gloria Nkencho. I am a master student at National University of Ireland Galway studying international comparative business law and I am an aspiring solicitor. I am interested in obtaining a within position in your firm. I believe your firm would be a quintessential place for me to work because of its wide range of practice areas such as Family law, Criminal defence law, Civil law and much more. These areas of law greatly appeal to my long-time passion to provide legal services and work in a client-based relationship. I know that Byrne Wallace is a firm will aid me in pursuing my legal career.

I undertook a nine-month placement at the University of Greenwich Legal Advice Centre while completing an international year abroad. The Legal Advice Centre, along with solicitors working Pro bono, provided clients with free legal advice. While working in the Legal Advice Centre, I observed the different solicitors as they conducted the interviews and advised the clients. After observing the solicitors for a couple of weeks, I was then instructed to conduct the interviews. I also got the opportunity to work in a family court in East London. Under the supervision of a solicitor I was able to approach potential clients, explain my role as a student advisor and offer our help desk service to them. This service included filling out of certain court forms, explanation of court procedures and note taking inside the court room. When I returned to Ireland I spent one week working in a solicitor’s office called Adreme Solicitors my role was a paralegal and receptionist. I undertook tasks such as legal research, drafting pleadings, client file management, answering the phone and scheduling client appointments.

Both experiences showed me how powerful the law is, and the challenges people and businesses face by being inadequately represented. This in turn has fuelled my passion to pursue a career in the legal field.

Since young, I have had a desire to work within the business and or legal sector. In secondary school I took part in the Fingal young enterprise where me and my team came first place. I was also chosen by trinity college to complete a “Pathway to law” programme. Both the legal and non-legal work I have completed all required me to work with people. This has positively affected my ability to build a strong rapport with clients. As a chairperson of my secondary school student council, the former Vice President of the Maynooth University Afro-Caribbean society and the current President of the African Students Association Ireland, I am capable of working well both in a team and alone. This along with the ability to work in a busy environment, to complete all the necessary work effectively before the designated deadlines are some of my many attributes I wish to bring to Byrne Wallace.

Last year I attended the Byrne Wallace open evening and I had the opportunity to have a look at the offices, talk to trainees, partners and other people within the firm. The firm’s values of mentorship and open communication and a hand’s on learning approach to its trainees influenced my decision to apply for a position within the firm. Byrne Wallace provides a comfortable environment to learn at the same time challenging the trainees to achieve their full potential.

My academic, legal and non-legal experiences along with my passion to assist those within the community, combined make me a strong candidate for a position within your firm. Thank you for your time and should I be selected for an interview I hope to discuss my skills and passion in more detail.

Your sincerely,

Gloria Nkencho.