**Hannah McErlean**

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Dear Sir or Madam,

My name is Hannah McErlean, and I am a final year student, studying Business and Law at UCD and currently hold a 2.1. I am writing to apply for your Trainee Development Programme and believe that my academic qualifications and previous work experience makes me the ideal candidate for ByrneWallace.

Awarded *‘Law Firm of the Year 2016’* and being the first large Irish law firm certified for *ISO 27001* shows the firm to be both an expert and progressive organisation. The trainee rotation system, coupled with the open door policy at ByrneWallace allows for learning by osmosis and I would be honored to be mentored by a firm of such calibre.

I am ambitious, enthusiastic, and highly motivated. This applies not only to my studies, but my commitments outside the academic rigor of college. I have many hobbies, the majority of which are team focused. Although challenging at times, I have learnt important lessons being both a member and leader of a team.

Participation in the secondary school ‘Concern Debates’ cultivated my interest in law and afforded me a strong command of rhetoric. As a member of the team that will represent UCD at the Cambridge University International Model United Nations conference, I continue to develop my public speaking skills and ability to articulate opinions convincingly. I have been elected as one half of the team that will coordinate the Student Legal Convention in 2017 and preparation for this event has strengthened my interest in ongoing legal issues and allowed me to put into practice the management theories I have learned at university. I am involved in the UCD “Negotiation Competition” as a volunteer judge and the role has allowed me to participate in the challenge and thrill of negotiating complex legal deals.

Through my work as a Cabin Counsellor and Gymnastics coach, I have developed excellent inter-personal and problem-solving skills. As a cabin counsellor, I interacted with campers suffering from serious medical conditions on a personal level, and also with their parents and medical staff whenever queries or problems arose. The nature of this job required me to use initiative and taught me the importance of confidence and professionalism.

ByrneWallace’s commitment to wider charitable initiatives, namely its partnership with the Solas Project, is an aspect of the firm that greatly appeals to me. My history of volunteering, particularly with charities for children, reinforces the idea that I an ideal candidate for the firm.

I would like to thank you for taking the time to read and consider my application. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Hannah McErlean.