I wish to apply for the Summer Internship Programme 2017 at Byrne Wallace. I am a final year post-graduate LLB student at University College Cork.

I see this as an important opportunity to take my first steps in building a future career at Byrne Wallace. There are several reasons why I would be a valuable addition to the Byrne Wallace team as an intern and possibly a future trainee. I want the best training possible so I will have a great foundation on which to build my career in the future, and in my opinion training with Byrne Wallace will provide me with this. Byrne Wallace is undeniably a major leading name amongst the Irish Law firms but still maintains a reputation of integrity and excellence along with a high profile. Even just looking at the recognition and awards the firm has achieved to date has given me an idea of how successful a firm is, such as being awarded the Law Firm of the Year 2016 at the Irish Law Awards. I would be very excited to begin my career in Law learning from the individuals within Byrne Wallace who drive the firm to success and achieve such standards of excellence in their daily work. It interests me that the firm is so diverse and covers all aspects of Law including Environmental Law, Employment Law, Banking and Finance and Childcare Law. The range of different areas of expertise covered by the firm would allow me to experience different aspects of the profession and I think this would also help to provide me with excellent training as I begin my career in Law.

Before entering my postgraduate study of Law in UCC through the newly introduced LLB programme, I studied and achieved an upper second class honours in English and History. Throughout my undergraduate study, the aspects of the subjects that I enjoyed the most were articulating arguments, exhibiting critical thinking, involving myself in research and also using primary sources to proffer analyses of events in the past. For my final year History dissertation, I undertook a study of Catholic ethics and its impact on Irish medical practice and deepened my knowledge of legislation and its impact on all aspects of Irish society. I was very happy to achieve a First Class Honours in this dissertation and took this as confirmation that I would thrive in the study of law. My ability to synthesise large amounts of material from disparate sources and to think clearly and analytically under pressure became clear to me in my Leaving Certificate exams in which I gained 530 points and I have demonstrated this ability consistently ever since and I am happy to say that the results in my postgraduate study of Law have been of a very high standard to date. In fact I was pleased to discover that I came 4th in my postgraduate class based on my summer results last year.

My four years as a waitress and in particular my time working in New York City have taught me how to work and perform well under pressure, successfully co-operate and enjoy working with colleagues as part of a team and be in constant contact with members of the public. I am a good communicator and I enjoyed having to be in constant ongoing communication with members on the public during my various different work experiences. Therefore I wish to pursue a career that involves being in contact, and co-operating with, members of the public on a regular basis.

My summers spent working and living in New York at such a young age has given me valuable life skills and I can now confidently face any unforeseen circumstances and deal with them whilst always maintaining perspective and logical thinking. My time spent working in such a bustling city also introduced me to a range of different people, and gave me a maturity that I think will show itself most clearly in my work with different clients and will ensure that I will thrive in a legal role.

I have also served as Vice Auditor of a University fashion society which demonstrates the confident leadership and communication skills that are also essential for a successful legal career.