**COVER LETTER**

My name is Isabella Spencer-Higgins and I am a graduate from the law and french law programme in University College Dublin. I obtained a 2.1 degree in September 2014. I also completed a year abroad in Paris where I obtained my licence III from l’Université Panthéon-Assas. During this period I achieved fluency in french which I believe would be an asset to your firm as I am aware that you have a significant amount of international clients.  I consider myself a excellent candidate for the Byrne Wallace traineeship programme because  I am a confident and assertive individual who can communicate ideas and opinions aptly and competently. I also have the ability to adapt with ease to fresh challenges. I have always had a keen interest in law and attained a summer internship Ivor Fitzpatrick & Co solicitors in 2009. This internship allowed me to gain insight into the functioning of the court and inspired me to study law in university.

I am commercially aware and like to keep up to date with recent transactions and deals in Ireland and abroad. During my time in UCD, I always enjoyed corporate law subjects such as contract law and company law. I am particularly interested in information relating to new commercial deals such as arranging a merger between multinational companies or reading about disputes with regards to commercial leases. I furthered my interest in corporate law in l’Université Panthéon-Assas where I studied company law from a civil law perspective. I acquired a well founded understanding into tax law during my time in the SCF group and I am particularly interested by Byrne Wallace’s recent expansion of its financial services and tax practices as it would enable me to gain an insight into this area.

I would greatly like to train with Byrne Wallace because it is a well-known firm which has a great diversity of practice area. As a potential trainee there are a variety of areas in which I would like to gain experience and I believe Byrne Wallace would greatly cater to this. As previously stated I am interested in tax law but I am also very interested in your environmental law and family law departments. These were subjects that I excelled in during my time in UCD and Byrne Wallace has a reputation of excellence in both these practice areas having won the Employment Law Team of the Year Award in both 2012 and 2015 and having hosted the hosted the Dublin Chamber of Commerce Green Economy Forum Annual Conference.

Byrne Wallace’s culture of excellence is an aspect of the firm that draws me towards it. Byrne Wallace is one of the most acclaimed firms in Ireland and notably is the only firm that has been awarded lexcel accreditation. It commits to the excellence and the caliber of its people and thus caters to the values I feel pivotal as I expect the best from myself in every aspect of my life. A traineeship in Byrne Wallace is known for being very challenging and I believe this will enable me to prove my motivation and dedication. I wish to excel as a lawyer and feel Byrne Wallace is the best firm to give me a complete and quality grounding in order to expand my expertise.

To summarize, I believe my personal qualities outlined above make me an ideal candidate for a traineeship in your firm. Thank you for your time and consideration in reading this, I have enclosed a copy of my curriculum vitae and am available for interview at any suitable time for you. I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Isabella Spencer-Higgins