06/02/2017

Dear Ms. Onslow,  
  
I would like to apply for the 2017 Byrne Wallace Summer Internship Programme having graduated from SOAS, University of London in June 2016 with a 2:1 in History.  
  
With a keen analytical mind and high level of literacy, I have demonstrated my ability to tackle challenges faced by a solicitor  
particularly during my internship at the Consulate of Ireland, San Francisco during the summer of 2015. My interest in the interplay between government and commerce, as evidenced by this choice of internship, resulted in my decision to pursue a career in corporate law. The consistent relevance of current global affairs in this industry is something that I find very engaging and this was enhanced during my time at the Consulate. I want to build on my enjoyment and knowledge of this industry, with a particular interest in regulatory and public policy, but also gain knowledge on areas of law I know  
relatively little about such as litigation. Furthermore, your firm's international presence is also very appealing to me, as I am sure it is for any aspiring lawyer, as I wish to understand the nuances of other political, social and legal environments.  
  
I am certain that a career in law would engage and challenge me, and I can bring a genuine enthusiasm and existing understanding of the relationship between government and commerce to Byrne Wallace. I am focused, both working independently and as part of a team and I enjoy working under pressure. I grasp new concepts quickly, picking the most salient points from large quantities of information, as I have demonstrated throughout my History degree. I was able to put into practice my investigative and analytical abilities in a practical setting whilst at the Consulate, specifically when I spotted an error in a large batch of visa applications, which I was able to amend in time before these applications had been processed, preventing the loss of invaluable documentation.  
  
In addition to my intellectual aptitude and enthusiasm, I am positive, sociable and always maintain a sense of humour. Since finishing university, I have been concentrating on advancing my language skills. I am currently studying both French and Spanish with an intention of taking written examinations in May and spending some time in these countries thereafter to enhance my linguistic abilities. I feel it is important to constantly endeavour to up-skill on areas that I did not have the opportunity to focus on whilst studying for my undergraduate degree.

I feel the skills I have shown in this application would provide me with the foundation needed to make the most out of a Internship Programme with your firm, and ultimately a successful legal career.   
  
I am available for interview at your convenience and feel confident that I can support everything I have stated in this letter. I would welcome the opportunity to meet you, and look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Sincerely,  
Isolde McDonough