

Dear Byrne Wallace recruitment,

My name is James O'Reilly, and I have recently turned twenty-two years old and I like to think that I am still a young, enthusiastic, individual eager to learn and work. However, I still have many hobbies I like to entertain when I am not in college or studying for my academic degree. My major hobbies revolve around sport activities, which include the likes of swimming, boxing, and overall weight training. Sports have always been a major part of my life since I was young. I was quite the swimmer especially in my teenage years, where I swam with Aer Lingus swim club. Here, I participated in many national competitions such as the Leinster finals, community games and division one and two, where I was lucky to win medals in Leinster competition and representing Meath in the community games twice. Subsequently, I enjoy continuing my sporting activities and one way I achieved this is by joining the Boxing club in my college. This additional exercise allows me to escape from the stresses of life at college and in general, while also helping my physical and mental wellbeing and I am excited as I will be able to participate in upcoming boxing tournaments organised at the college level.

I am writing as I am intrigued about your traineeship programme. I am currently an undergraduate 4<sup>th</sup> year student at the school of law at UCD studying Law with history. I am extremely passionate about these two disciplines and want to pursue a career in the legal world and become a solicitor. A reason to why I choose to study law was to my luck in receiving work experience in TY with the district court judge of Kildare. Here, I spent a week being immersed in the district courts of Kildare learning how cases operate and how this court functions, which was helpful in me deciding a course to study in college. Throughout my time in the courts, I was lucky to actually sit in during the proceedings of a manslaughter case, where I witnessed the Barristers arguing their points in front of the judge and this had a profound effect on me as a 16 year old, as even though the facts and evidence of the case were unsettling, I was enthralled by the barristers and their knowledge of the law and I am forever grateful for that opportunity, as it is one of the most significance reasons to why I want to pursue a career in law. In regard to my academic side throughout my years of exams in college, I have achieved a consist 2:1 average across my disciplines. An academic award I am practically proud of was the 'UCD entrance scholar award,' that I obtained in my first year of college as recognition of my hard work in the leaving certificate for achieving over a certain threshold in points.

A major reason to why I want to apply to this trainee programme with your law firm is because I am fascinated by the variety of legal disciplines your law firm offers to your clients and I was

especially drawn to the fact that your firm provides legal counsel on Intellectual property. In my modules for my third year at UCD, I was lucky to be given the opportunity to study copyright law. I had chosen Copyright as it is an area of law quite distinct and different from the typical law subjects I had studied previously. I was drawn to the international dimension of the topic, As I enjoyed studying and attempting to comprehend the different ideas of Originality for copyrighted work from the interpretations of British courts to the Court of Justice of the European Union. Despite, the module being difficult to comprehend in some respects and limited to just copyright law, I hope if granted the trainee programme that the specialists in your law firm can expand my knowledge base and successful solicitor on such an ever-changing area of modern law. Another fundamental reasons to why I want to complete a traineeship at your law firms is because I resonate with your firm's belief in having a positive impact on society as a whole. One of the defining reasons to why I wanted to be a part of the legal profession and become a solicitor was to help those in need especially in their pursuit of justice. Early on in my studies, I read a lot about private practitioners and the cases that they took pro bono, as a way to not only improve our legal system but also to enshrine rights that previously were not recognized in Ireland. I understand that Byrne Wallace cares about the importance of pro bono work seen with your advocacy of the Corporate Responsibility Programme and this is one of the reasons to why I want to complete a traineeship with your firm, as I would like to dedicate my work and efforts as a successful solicitor towards a company that values such an important service.

Lastly, I believe that I will make the most out of the opportunity, as I have a good work ethic and determination to learn how the legal world operates and become a successful solicitor in Ireland. I truly believe there is only so much I can learn in college or independently and the experience at a law firm through a traineeship, can provide me with much needed insight into the operation of the legal profession, which would be vital for me to achieve route I want to take in my legal career, such as what to specialise in and improve my ability to evaluate cases and giving legal advice to clients.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

James O'Reilly.