Dear Sir/Madam

I am a third-year business and law student at University College Dublin and I am interested in joining your law firm on the summer internship programme. A possible career as a corporate lawyer at Byrne Wallace greatly appeals to me as I noticed the firm places a much stronger emphasis on technology than many other law firms in Ireland. This I believe to be critical as the technology industry is experiencing rapid growth and I would be keen to be part of the process of deciphering new legal issues that arise in this area and working with Byrne Wallace’s current clients in technology such as Integrity 360 and Arconics.

Studying business in conjunction with law has provided me with a broad understanding of the issues that firms are facing today in a rapidly changing global economy and has given me insight into the impact technology has on many firms. The knowledge I possess in accounting, finance and management, I am sure can be put to good use in assisting my ability to understand complex corporate situations.

I am currently working in KPMG in the tax department on a five-week internship. The experience is proving valuable as I am getting exposure to the work of an advisory firm and first hand insight on how to manage client’s issues. I hope to apply the skills and experience I gain in a tax and accounting firm, to a corporate law firm. I have also worked in numerous waiting jobs in which teamwork has proved crucial to the smooth running of the restaurant. This work experience has enabled me to understand the importance of every employee working harmoniously to achieve the objectives of the business. The customer service skills I gained will also be important when dealing with clients of the firm.

In UCD I have taken part in the law school’s mooting competition. From what I gathered from the website, the skills I developed from mooting, will be valuable ones when working for Byrne Wallace. Researching complex legal issues, developing strong arguments, and then delivering these arguments in a coherent manner in a mock court, are examples of the skills I improved while taking part in this competition.

I noticed that the firm offers insolvency and restructuring services. This area of law really interests me, especially the area of examinership and the way the Irish courts have dealt with this area in recent times. We studied this area in depth in Company Law at University and I believe the research skills and knowledge I have developed in the area, would enable me to make useful contributions to the firm. Corporate transactions is another area of law I would be keen to work in especially with the emphasis on foreign direct investment in Ireland. The uncertainties which are present in the current economic climate will create challenges in legal advocacy in corporate transactions. I would be very interested to work on these issues and develop my understanding in this area, from working at Byrne Wallace.

As a person, I am very, friendly, hard-working and dedicated. I have volunteered as a helper with the Dublin Diocese on their pilgrimage to Lourdes for four years. The work is very hands on and requires providing constant care for the sick pilgrims. The work can be very tough however, it is extremely rewarding. I am also not afraid to step out of my comfort zone. I occasionally busk and I have travelled around Europe for charity using only the money I made from busking with a ukulele.

The skills and knowledge I have gained at UCD and the commitment and interest I have to working in a corporate law firm make me a qualified candidate for an opportunity to work as a placement on your summer internship programme. I have enclosed my CV and a written piece of submissions of a moot in UCD displaying my skills in researching and developing arguments on legal issues. If you wish to reach me, please call 0867213495. Thank you in advance for your time and I look forward to speaking with you.

Sincerely,

James O’Connell