Dear Ms Loftus,

I am a First Class Honours Business and Law graduate from University College Dublin, ranking 8th out of 116 students. It is with great enthusiasm that I am writing to apply for ByrneWallace’s Trainee Programme for 2024.

I am drawn to commercial law because I want to be a part of putting things in action. My role as a Legal and Compliance Consultant in an investment bank provides me with a fantastic opportunity to get a behind-the-scenes look at how transactions are carried out and the significant role of solicitors in these transactions. I thoroughly enjoy studying the underlying agreements that have been painstakingly prepared by solicitors, line by line, to ensure that the wishes of the parties are executed without issue. I want to be a part of the team that prepares these pieces of professional artwork that I so enjoy experiencing. I am also amazed by the ability of commercial law firms to keep ahead of rapidly changing regulations and even keep their clients ahead of upcoming regulations in areas such as finance and technology.

I want to join ByrneWallace because your firm diligently watches the legal landscape to keep ahead of upcoming changes. I particularly enjoyed your firm’s publications and insights on the EU Artificial Intelligence Act and the AI Liability Directive that categorically cuts through the regulatory noise to get to the details that really matter for clients. I thoroughly enjoyed these pieces as someone who is very interested in technology. I also identify with the unique culture and ethos of ByrneWallace that emphasises collegiality because through my experience I have realised that collegiality produces the best results and ensures that everyone feels valued and respected. I would be honoured to become a part of your firm’s friendly, collaborative, and supportive work environment.

I would be a valuable addition to ByrneWallace as I am eager to learn and always go above and beyond to ensure success and progress. These characteristics have facilitated my success in my current role where I am regarded as a top performer. Having graduated from UCD without a secured traineeship, I decided to join First Derivative as a Legal and Compliance Consultant. This role has developed me professionally and personally to prepare me for a legal traineeship. I developed a particular interest in qualifying as a solicitor in the area of financial services, and this role has helped me to build up a bank of transferable skills that are invaluable in this sector. Alongside my work in a fast-paced environment, I have completed the FE1 exams and I am awaiting the results of my last 2 exams. I have also recently begun study for the Global Financial Compliance Exam from the Chartered Institute for Securities & Investment. I believe this demonstrates that I possess the commitment and drive that it takes to succeed in a career in commercial law.

Thank you for this opportunity and for taking the time to review my application. Please find my CV attached.

Yours sincerely,

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Jamie Reid