ByrneWallace

HR Department

88 Harcourt St, Saint Kevin's

Dublin 2, D02 DK18

Dear Sir/Madam

My name is Jane Casey and I am in my final year studying law in Griffith College Dublin. I am writing to you to hopefully obtain a position under the Summer Internship Programme. I ultimately hope to obtain a traineeship and begin my career as a solicitor. I believe this internship will greatly aid my goal. I believe I have acquired the appropriate skills of a solicitor since I began to study law. I have demonstrated tenacity through my decision to partly fund my switch to study law from studying economics at UCD. I have also evidenced strong research skills through my work with the Irish Innocence Project at Griffith College.

I volunteered as a researcher with the Innocence Project to create a data base of exonerations in Ireland, like the US data base. We were all assigned cases, and told to research more. Through curiosity, I researched everyone’s cases and I noticed a pattern. A lot of the witnesses and defendants in the cases had been subjected to questioning by the ‘Heavy Gang’, a group of Gardaí who investigated the most serious crimes in Ireland from the mid ‘70s to ‘80s, for example the ‘Sallins Train Robbery’ case. Their tactics during interrogation were ruthless, they used physical abuse to force confessions out of individuals. During a meeting with fellow researchers and the co-founder of the Irish Innocence Project, Anne O’Driscoll, I suggested we create a separate section on the data base for cases subjected to the ‘Heavy Gang’. This suggestion was supported and accepted and we subsequently made these amendments.

I have shown leadership through successfully being selected as the inaugural President of the Brehon Law Society at Griffith College. While I was completing my judicial internship in Philadelphia, we attended a Brehon Law Society evening with American attorneys, judges, and other law professionals. Judge Lynn, who was overseeing the internship, told us that if any of us wanted to be selected as the President, we would have to deliver a speech to the room and based on that, a vote would be cast. Myself and four others delivered speeches and I was subsequently voted as the President. Since I have set up the Society at Griffith, I have signed up over 65 students to the society, I also run the email account for the society, where I provide information and answer student queries. This year I will also be involved in the selection process with the head of the law faculty in Griffith College, Karen Sutton, where we will choose suitable applicants to go to Philadelphia and work under a Supreme Court judge.

I am also currently writing a dissertation on how the abortion laws have developed in Ireland, in chronological order. I chose this topic as it is something that stimulates me and is something that is highly controversial right now.

It is very important for me to demonstrate how genuine my desire is to obtain an internship. Studying law has certainly changed the way I view the world, and has changed me as a person for the better. My reasoning for choosing ByrneWallace is through reputation and the superb internship programme you offer. It is my ambition to gain experience with one of the best law firms in Ireland.

Thank you for taking the time to read my cover letter, I hope to hear from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Casey