Jasmine Hett

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Dear Sir/ Madame,

I am writing to you in relation to your Summer Internship Programme. I am in my final year studying Law with History in University College Dublin and currently hold a first class degree. Byrne Wallace is my firm of choice and I consider the Summer Internship Programme a stepping-stone towards my career.

I have chosen to apply to Byrne Wallace because I am looking for a career that combines law with international business. I learn when I am challenged, so it is imperative to me that I work within an environment like Byrne Wallace where I will be surrounded not only by top tier interns and later trainees but also by colleagues and clients who are the best in their field.

At the moment I am unsure what area of law I would like to specialise in. I have enjoyed studying company and employment law, because I have found those areas to be the most relevant and topical. These areas particularly appeal, as I am able to apply this knowledge to current affairs in order to gain a better understanding of events unfolding around me. During my internship, I hope to identify more areas that I would like to gain further experience in.

Working as an intern for FeltonMcKnight solicitors has helped to bridge the gap between the study and practice of law. I have gained practical experience in reading and understanding legal documentation, particularly, conveyancing. I have also undertaken legal research on areas such as forced medication. Accompanying the partners to various client meetings has developed my understanding of client relationships. My discussions with Mark Felton regarding my career choice has pushed me towards a career within a commercial law firm because of the greater variety of workload and my genuine interest in commercial law.

My school and university life has given me a broad skillset, which I believe is applicable to working within a corporate law firm. My role as Head Girl in St. Conleths College greatly enhanced my communication skills and furthered my ability to work efficiently in a team. I learnt when it is crucial to commit to team decisions despite my own opinion. These skills are very applicable to a legal career, especially one within Byrne Wallace, where there is a huge emphasis on teamwork.

While on my study abroad year in the University of Western Australia I completed debate training, further developing my communication skills. The year abroad also gave me an opportunity to diversify my extra-curriculums alongside my academics. During my time in Australia I was an active member of the Sports Club, learning how to paddle board, kayak and surf. I also took the opportunity to travel extensively through Asia and Australasia with friends, family, volunteer groups and independently through Laos and Cambodia. This experience greatly enhanced my independence, organisation, and decisiveness but it also gave me an ability to find common ground with individuals from across the world with a level of cultural awareness I did not have before.

This year I am acting as a Peer Exchange Advisor for prospective exchange students, a task which involves giving a number of presentations. The role has improved my ability to deliver efficient, concise information. Negotiation is central to a career as a lawyer. To gain experience negotiating I entered into the Student Legal Service Negotiation Competition. This involved developing innovative arguments alongside my partner to try to achieve a mutually beneficial result for both parties. I have also trained to volunteer for the Student Legal Service providing free legal information. This has benefited me in terms of practical skills needed for a solicitor and an introduction the types of issues that may be brought forward.

I hold a strong, consistent academic record as is evident from my results. However, I understand the importance of a life outside my academic career. Throughout university, I have been actively involved in sport, music, travel, and most predominantly volunteering, further illustrated in my CV.

The level of responsibility given to interns is an aspect of the Byrne Wallace internship that particularly appeals to me, and sets it apart from other firms. Because of this, I believe that an internship will give me the opportunity to develop personally and professionally in a way that other firms cannot offer. I have the basic skillset required to become a solicitor and believe that an internship with Byrne Wallace would be instrumental in developing these skills.

Thank you for your consideration, I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,

Jasmine Hett