**KATIE FEERICK**

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Ms Ciara Loftus

Human Resource Manager

Byrne Wallace LLP

88 Harcourt Street

Dublin 2

14 October 2024

**Re: 2025 Traineeship Application**

Dear Ms. Loftus,

I am writing to express my interest for a position on the 2025 Traineeship Programme at Byrne Wallace. By way of background, I am a first-class honours graduate of Corporate Law (International) from the University of Galway with over two years of legal intern and paralegal experience across a general practice law firm and larger corporate and commercial firms. I am awaiting the results from my final two FE1 examinations, having completed my exams this week. In my current role I work as a paralegal in the Public & Regulatory department in Fieldfisher Ireland LLP, seconded to the Financial Service and Pensions Ombudsman, where I have developed core skills in the areas of legal drafting, adjudication and effective case management.

In my previous role as legal intern in T. Mullan & Co. Solicitors, I developed practical experience in managing complex conveyancing and personal injury files while balancing other responsibilities including attending hearings with the principal solicitor, drafting correspondence and liaising with clients. My desire to pursue a career as a solicitor was solidified during my internship in RDJ LLP as I received hands-on experience in the corporate and commercial litigation departments in preparing for high-profile cases, conducting legal research, drafting attendance notes and in preparing for team moot court. In addition, my various other experience in hospitality and teaching English abroad have instilled me with a strong sense of resilience and adaptability.

As mentioned above, I am currently seconded to the tracker mortgages team within the Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman, where I am responsible for managing a significant caseload of tracker mortgage complaints from their initial investigation stage up until their final adjudication stage which involves assessing and evaluating complex financial information and preparing a legally binding decision within the parameters of the relevant legislation. This role has enhanced my commercial awareness of the evolving financial regulatory landscape and its implications for individuals and businesses.

I am particularly drawn to Byrne Wallace as a firm given its exceptional reputation in the area of employment banking and finance law, which has cemented the firm’s status as a leading law firm in Ireland, particularly given the firm’s Band 1 ranking in employment. I am struck by the level of expertise channeled into the firm’s life sciences sector which demonstrates the collaborative and cross-departmental approach employed by each department to operate to such a high level of expertise in such an esteemed area of law. As an aspiring trainee of the firm, the cross-departmental approach is a strong indicator of the open-door policy that operates within the firm and is a major factor in my decision to apply. The Trainee Insights Webinar further solidified my desire to train with the firm after hearing first hand that the firm is proudly trainee focused and provides trainees with meaningful exposure in high-profile matters from the outset. The opportunity to train in such a prestigious firm alongside Byrne Wallace’s legal experts is hugely appealing and a further persuasive factor in my decision to apply to the 2025 traineeship programme.

I am eager to build on my extensive legal experience in Byrne Wallace as a trainee. The firm’s values of decency and respect resonate deeply with my own and represent the people-oriented approach embodied within the firm. Byrne Wallace has always stood out to me as a leader in the Irish legal sphere where trainees are given the tools to become great solicitors. I am dedicated to providing exceptional results and am determined to embrace the hands-on learning opportunities Byrne Wallace has to offer. I am confident that my previous experiences have equipped me with the necessary skills that a Byrne Wallace trainee holds, such as critical thinking, proactiveness and collaboration.

I would be extremely grateful to be considered for an interview for this position, to share more about my experience and desire to work at Byrne Wallace. Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Katie Feerick