20th October 2017.

**Application for the position of Trainee Solicitor**

To whom it may concern,

I have been working for more than a year now as a legal analyst in the Commercial Disputes Department at Herbert Smith Freehills, Belfast; a position which has given me an invaluable insight to the challenging yet exciting nature of working in corporate law. My time at HSF has confirmed my passion for this field of law, which I feel is the perfect combination of the intellectual stimulation which comes from legal work and the thrill of being part of the commercial world. Therefore, this is the path I wish to pursue and in which I aim to excel.

With that in mind, it is my objective to train and progress after qualification with one of Ireland's leading firms. From my professional experience to date, especially in account management and teaching, I have learned that I am someone who is motivated by delivering results for those for whom I am working. It was indeed during my time as an Account Manager that I realised my love for problem-solving for clients and learned that this entails working to understand their business and respond to their specific needs, as well as anticipating future needs. I am therefore particularly drawn to Byrne Wallace due to its excellent reputation for taking the utmost care of its clients. In my opinion, the firm has set itself out from the crowd in this regard by working to receive the ISO 27001 certification, as well as the Lexcel accreditation, which give it a decisive competitive advantage. It is in this type of pioneering and innovative client-focused environment that I hope to invest my own skills and expect to have the scope to realise my full potential.

Given my background working in an EU institution and my recent experience at Herbert Smith Freehills working for clients on matters relating to compliance with EU Competition regulation, the work currently being done in Byrne Wallace's EU Competition & Regulated Markets department is of special appeal to me. This is an area of law which is particularly pertinent at the moment in light of the increase of dawn raids which raises serious questions for SMEs, something which I would be keen to work on. Litigation is also of interest, having found my current work in Commercial Disputes to be diverse and engaging; I am eager to continue learning from your firm's expert litigators.

Since graduating I have been able to build on skills which would be central to my success as a trainee and thereafter at Byrne Wallace. Being someone who is naturally adept at establishing a rapport with those around me, be they teammates or clients, experiences such as managing accounts and giving classes have further strengthened my interpersonal skills and ability to create a positive and productive working environment. I also understand the unqualified importance of attention to detail and perseverance in legal work and have been able to build on those aptitudes through my role as a legal analyst.

Training at Byrne Wallace is well-known for being immersive from the offset, yet with a structure of support from some of the country's best lawyers. I can therefore be confident that my talents will be nurtured, developed and can eventually play a long-term part in the firm's evolution.

I look forward to hearing from you at your convenience.

Yours faithfully,

Kerry Corbett.