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Dear ByrneWallace,

Firstly let me introduce myself, my name is Kevin McKeown I am a 28 year old law graduate from Malahide in North County Dublin. On subjective reflection I would describe myself as an ambitious, hardworking and goal orientated individual.

In writing this letter, the most prudent question to consider is why study law? Growing up in Ireland we are subconsciously introduced to the concept of law from an early age, when we make our Holy Communion we are introduced to teachings of natural law found in the Ten Commandments; thou shalt not kill, etc. However, my interest in law can truly be traced back to secondary school history. In the various civilisations studied the legal system was the one constant throughout, ensuring or striving to ensure harmony in society. In ancient Rome, Roman Law was the legal framework that existed for over a thousand years inspiring the basic framework for Civil Law used today. In Early Medieval Ireland, Brehon Law governed everyday life and survived until the adoption of English Common Law. Furthermore, one of the most interesting virtues of law, which attracted me to it, is its ability to adapt to change in society. The constitutional amendment recognising same-sex marriage is evidence of such ability to adapt to change in society, as people in the 21st Century are becoming more tolerant to the differences of others Bunreacht na hÉireann, a living document, adapted to the societal change and now protects the marital rights of those who were previously discriminated against.

My professional goals over the next five years consist of sitting all 8 FE-1 examinations in March 2018 with the view of commencing PPC1 in September 2018 and qualifying as a solicitor over the next two years and then building my career in Dublin. I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to learn and develop my skills as a lawyer at a prestigious law firm such as ByrneWallace.

In my spare time I play football with St. Sylvester’s GAA Club in Malahide and I like to read history. A most area of focus has been the Bosnian War and the cases brought against alleged war criminals by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.

Finally, I would like to thank you for considering my application.

Kind regards,

Kevin McKeown