Kieran Mulligan

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Dear Ms Onslow,

I am a final year law student, and I am writing to apply for a training contract with Byrne Wallace upon graduation.

Whilst, I have not had much personal contact with your firm thus far, I have heard great things about the firm and the training contract that is on offer following a recent meeting with my personal tutor Prof. Irene Lynch-Fannon, who recommended in the strongest possible terms that I apply.

Through further research, I have learned that Byrne Wallace practices in the areas of law which I have enjoyed studying the most during my time in UCC, such as EU competition law and environmental law. In addition, I am impressed with the excellent benefits of training at Byrne Wallace, such as the Learning and Development Programme, which combines on-the-job training with lectures and seminars. In addition, the advantage of being supervised by a partner who could offer valuable career advice and guidance not only on specific areas of law but also on professional skills such as portfolio management and client relations is highly attractive.

As a prospective trainee, I believe that I have several strong qualities that could benefit Byrne Wallace. For example, I am an extremely motivated individual. Evidence of this can be found in my significant improvement results between first and second year. Having received my first year results, I knew immediately that I wanted to improve upon them and thus I set about implementing the changes that would be required to achieve this goal. In doing so, I improved my class ranking by fourteen places from sixteenth to second, whilst balancing my study with working extensive hours in Spar during the academic year.

Furthermore, I have strong interpersonal skills, which are, in my opinion, an essential characteristic to have in the legal profession, considering the personal relationships that are fostered between clients and co-workers. I believe I am a sociable character who brings an air of calmness even to the most difficult and challenging situations, ranging from last-minute meetings before moot court to walking in the Slovenian forests with my friend and a lack of GPS. I can also take on a leadership role when required; within FLAC I currently manage the Vice-Clinics Officer and a large team of volunteers who attend our clinics, and in the past, I have captained various sporting teams.

Public speaking is another past-time of mine, which I have enjoyed from a young age. Whilst in university I’ve had the opportunity to speak before large crowds on numerous occasions, such as during the Law Society’s Gold Medal Debate 2017 and at FLAC events such as our information night and at mock clinics. In addition, the Law Society have asked me to speak to the first years about the benefits of competing in moot court, as well as giving them advice before their first trial.

Lastly, my legal experience thus far has thoroughly prepared me for life as a trainee. Having completed two internships, I believe I have ample experience of the activities a trainee would perform on a day-to-day basis. Additionally, while in university I have worked with other legal professionals in my role as Clinics Officer to deliver legal advice, as well as competing in moot court at a high-level.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and I hope to see you at interview.

**Sincerely,**

Kieran Mulligan