26B Pearse Square

Dublin 2

16 October 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a confident law student with a determination and ambition to train at a top law firm in Dublin. I am writing to apply for the role of trainee solicitor. As Byrne Wallace was named Law Firm of the Year 2016 at the Irish Law Awards it is plain to see why I would aspire to work with the firm.

I am currently studying my final year of my undergraduate degree in Law in Trinity College Dublin and currently obtain a II.I and am on track to maintain this grade.

My interest in law has motivated me to gain a wide range of experiences in the legal sector and it is ultimately these experiences which have inspired me to pursue a career in commercial law.

I am attracted to the diverse range of opportunities, with work in practice areas ranging from banking to intellectual property and innovative sectors such as health and energy. With this comes the opportunity to work with a wide range of people across the world, whether they are individual clients, large corporate businesses or members of my legal team. I am particularly excited by the fast pace, and client focused nature of commercial law. I believe my strengths lie in my ability to adapt and work well with others as well as utilising my commercial acumen.

I was first introduced to a legal environment during a school work placement program, during which I experienced the work of my local solicitor in Carndonagh, Donegal. This work interested me, however I was intrigued to explore my business ambitions. I sought experience in this area and completed an internship with Bank of Ireland which honed in my research skills and increased my need to remain in the commercial world. Most recently I worked with the Irish Refugee Council for three weeks. This work opened my eyes to the importance of access to legal aid and the profession in general. The opportunity Byrne Wallace provides for individuals from St John of God brings a positive and valuable experience for the local community.

I feel that negotiation is an essential skill for being successful in a career in law. I have displayed and developed this throughout my time in school and college when taking part in Model United Nations competitions. I also believe that fostering strong relationships is necessary, which is achieved through maintaining a high level of communication. I constantly seek to improve my public speaking to aid this. I feel that my ability to make well informed judgments alongside being able to get along with people in a relaxed yet professional manner are advantageous in this field.

I have been educated in numerous schools in Ireland, UK and North America throughout my entire education and although this was not always easy, has made me a truly global citizen with a broad range of skills including self-awareness, intercultural skills and a tolerance for ambiguity that my peers don’t always possess.

Cyber Security is an increasingly prominent issue for businesses and law firms are of interest to criminals due to the work they do on transactions which are not yet public. The recent ‘outsider trading’ charges brought against three hackers, who traded on information stolen from senior lawyers’ emails to make at least $4m profit, highlights the value of such information. Cyber criminals are becoming ever more sophisticated, presenting both a challenge and an opportunity for Byrne Wallace and its clients. This threat, however, offers an opportunity for Byrne Wallace to distinguish itself from its competitors by investing in, and highlighting to clients, its cyber security measures and training which is evident by being the first and only large Irish law firm certified with ISO 27001.

I am aware that Byrne Wallace is an extremely reputable player in this field and recruit accordingly, I would very much appreciate the opportunity to demonstrate my unique skill-set to you in a face to face interview.

Byrne Wallace has a strong commitment to excellence and expects high standards. These principles align with my own. I am an ambitious person and set high expectations of myself as shown by both my extracurricular and academic successes. As the firm recruits to retain if recruited I hope to stay with the firm after qualification and work towards making a valuable contribution to the firm.

Thank you for taking the time to read my application. I hope that, on consideration of my application, you will be persuaded of my potential to progress within the firm.

I look forward to hearing from you.

For any further queries please contact me at deeryk@tcd.ie or 0838371475.

Yours Sincerely

Kirstin Deery