Lúí Guiney,

Flat 1, 44 Rathgar Road,

Dublin 6.

9th February 2018

Byrne Wallace,

88 Harcourt Street,

Saint Kevin’s,

Dublin 2.

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to you to ask if you will please consider me for the summer internship program. I have been working to gain relevant experience in order to prepare myself for an internship programme. I am taking Company Law and Commercial Law modules, which was motivated by my continued ambition to be accepted as for this internship and study modules that would directly relate to the work in ByrneWallace.

I have also gained extra curricular legal experience. Most recently I helped complete a research project for TCD FLAC which was about the Victims of Sexual Violence. The section I worked on was about Vulnerable Witnesses and Court Procedure. I was asked to write 1000 words. I also volunteered to help with the organising and coordination of two more junior law students who were teamed up with me. The publication is due to be launched on the 7th of February 2018. I also had the privilege of accompanying a Senior Counsel in a Judicial Review Case in the High Court. This experience was invaluable to me, as I got a firsthand look at the judicial review brief which helped me to understand the doctrine of Administrative Law which is integral to the practice of Commercial Law.

I undertook the Scholarship exams last year and sought private tutoring from scholars in Trinity as part of my preparation for these. My motivation for this was an understanding that I would be more likely to succeed if I asked those who had already achieved this goal and took their advice and put it into practice. While I was not was not named a scholar, I achieved all first and high second class honours, which was a huge achievement for me as these were the second set of exams I had ever taken, as I received no formal education before entering university.

I know that this internship is competitive and I also know that I have a different profile to a typical Trinity law student in two ways. Firstly I have come from a unique background yet achieved a great deal without ever receiving formal schooling before entering university. Secondly, I have relevant life and work experience as I worked as a chef from the age of 16. As a chef I was extremely driven and worked my way up in very challenging and competitive environments in many top restaurants. I believe there are a number of parallels that can be drawn between these two professions, for example, the pressure to continuously achieve consistency and attain the highest levels of perfection in everything you do. The standards top chefs strive to reach are the same of top lawyers. These include high levels of integrity, perfection, professionalism and working as part of a team under extreme pressure. This is the field that shaped me and I have brought many of the values and skills from the kitchens to my study of law. I believe these two points of difference demonstrate that I have the drive, ambition, tenacity and strength to be a contender for the summer internship.

Working in restaurants, particularly in some of the smaller establishments where I held more senior positions, has helped me to develop my commercial focus. I had to understand the running of the restaurant as a business and often had to work closely with the Head Chef on budgets, supply and demand, costs per dish and profits. I have also worked independently as a chef for events and had to manage all of this myself. This experience has allowed me to understand and relate principles and theory of commercial law to real examples and professional environments.

Having a deeper understanding of people and the realities of the working world is essential to the skills a potential intern must have. I will come to work early and I will stay late. I will always try my hardest to reach excellence in whatever task I am asked to do and I continuously strive to bring a positive attitude to my own work and to the people I work with. I want to be able to learn how to provide specialised legal advice and understand what it is the client really needs. I have experience going above and beyond for clients in previous professions and it is something I prioritise. Dedication to client service is something I am looking for in a firm as I am ambitious in my career goals and gaining invaluable experience from working with clients early on. I am seeking to be challenged by interesting and relevant work. The opportunity to work in a full service commercial law firm is another important factor for me. I am seeking a comprehensive internship experience and a chance to learn about all areas that the firm specialises in. I also feel ready for real responsibility and relish the idea of getting to work closely with the teams and partners in the firm.

Please help me to reach my potential by giving me that chance to prove that I have got what it takes. I have a unique perspective and experience based on my background that I believe can really add value to a firm like ByrneWallace.

Kindest regards,

Lúí Guiney.