Miss Laura Gordon

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**Training Contract 2024/2025**

Dear Mona Costelloe

I submit this application form and my cv alongside this cover letter for your consideration for the role of a trainee solicitor.

I am currently working as a commercial immigration paralegal at Lewis Silkin in their Belfast office. I am an aspiring solicitor keen to make the move to Dublin, originally being from County Meath. I completed an integrated master’s degree in law, which includes an exemption from the Legal Practice Course at Northumbria University in May 2022. As can be noted on my CV, my overall grade was 69. I plan to sit the FE-1 exams this coming Spring.

My various work experiences in the legal sector have helped me to develop the appropriate skills to support work undertaken as a paralegal and make me a good candidate for a training contract. For example, my volunteer role within Support Through Court has exposed me to professional practice and has provided me with the opportunity to support litigants through the court system. As a student advisor within the Student Law Office at Northumbria University, I have provided advice and assistance to members of the public in civil law. I am therefore familiar with elements such as confidentiality, data protection and client care. Most recently, I am working as a commercial immigration paralegal at Lewis Silkin LLP. This role has given me the opportunity to build working relationships in the commercial field and has given me an understanding of the day to day running of a corporate law firm. It has required me to be an involved member of the team, as well as providing me with an opportunity to develop my commercial awareness. This has enabled me to consider a business focused approach to problem solving.

I would like to train at Byrne Wallace as it is one of Ireland’s largest and most progressive law firms with an excellent reputation and who have advised on landmark cases in Irish law. . The supportive work culture appeals to me as I aspire to work somewhere where myself, my colleagues, and the clients we work with are treated with respect, courtesy, and fairness. I am particularly interested in working for a firm who embrace technology and its ability to bring us closer to each other and clients. Furthermore, the firms drive towards equality, inclusion and development cannot be taken for granted in today’s society where everyone deserves a seat at the table and should feel proud to bring their authentic self to work.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my application.

Yours sincerely

Laura Gordon