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Byrne Wallace

Head of the Trainee Programme

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Dear Sir/Madam

I am a final year student in Law with Politics in UCD and I would like to apply for a position in your trainee programme.

From the beginning of my first year in university I knew I wanted to pursue a career in Corporate Law and therefore I have strived to develop my skillset and widen my law expertise throughout my studies. I have researched your firm and also spoke to trainees at the recent Law Fair in college. Following these engagements I have come to the decision that Byrne Wallace is the firm that I would most like to attain a traineeship from and begin to lay the foundations for what I hope to be a successful and longstanding career.

From all the information I have gathered about your firm there are two main reasons why I want to apply.

Firstly I want to be part of a team, and I am encouraged by the fact that your firm emphasises that as trainees we are an integral part of the company. While I am excited to be delegated tasks that will enhance my skills and to see what I have learnt in practice, I feel that Byrne Wallace’s emphasis on constant support and guidance is the best way to facilitate this. I am attracted to the open door policy that your trainees have spoken so highly of. I recognise that your firm has some of the most successful and qualified corporate solicitors in Ireland and it is this high standard I hope to one day achieve myself.

Secondly the diversity and individuality of your people is what distinguishes your organisation from other legal firms in Dublin. I feel I could contribute to this. I come from a Law with Politics background and I have had the opportunity to see how politics compliments the law. In my four years of studying I have developed a great understanding of both the Law and Politics within Ireland and the European Union that I feel I may not have attained had I chosen to study one discipline. As well as this I have a keen interest in travelling having taken part in the J1 programme, travelled throughout Europe and studied in Antwerp in Belgium on Erasmus I have had the opportunity to meet people of a diverse nature of backgrounds and experience various cultures.

I have attained work experience in an array of areas and this has not only contributed to my decision to become a solicitor but furthermore it has allowed me to see where my strengths lie and in what type of environments I work best in.

In the summer of 2014 I worked as a project assistant in Jenner and Block a law firm in Chicago. This was a large firm with a huge number of staff. This afforded me the opportunity to better my communication and initiative skills as a hands on approach was needed. I was in charge of updating the firm’s network system as new data and evidence relating to upcoming litigation was sent into the firm. This meant I was in constant consultation with the attorneys informing them of changes to files. It was a faced paced environment and there was always something to do, however I believe this intense environment is one that I strive in. Just like your firm they were committed to excellence and as a result I sought to achieve this own standard in my work.

In the summer of 2015 I spent a week working in the Competition Law team of A&L Goodbody. I was given the task of compiling a resource manual on Public Procurement contracts in Universities and the use of State Aid. It was here that I got to use the research skills I had learned in university. As well as this through shadowing the trainee solicitor on the team I got an insight into what the role of a trainee in a corporate law firm entails. I was immediately attracted to the position as I saw how taking part in a programme of this kind allows you to focus and develop your own skills whilst being trained by experts in area.

I am completely committed to becoming a solicitor in corporate law and there is no other career I am interested in. In saying this I want to be part of a large firm that is focused on team work and attaining the best results for clients possible. It is for this reason that I feel I could contribute to your firm’s exemplary reputation. I hope I get the opportunity to convey my interest in your firm further in your interview round and look forward to hearing back from you.

Yours faithfully

Laura Ryan