Gortmore   
 Aughrim

Ballinasloe

Co. Galway.

Crona McLoughlin

Human Resource Manager,

Byrne Wallace

87-88 Harcourt Street,

Dublin 2

22nd October 2015

Dear Ms. McLoughlin,

I wish to submit an application for the Byrne Wallace traineeship program. I enclose my application form, curriculum vitae and cover letter.

Byrne Wallace is a firm at which I aspire to commence my legal career. The positivity and supportive trainee environment conveyed by the company’s website, coupled with the array of opportunities in a plethora of practice areas are enticing prospects. Byrne Wallace’s Lexcel accreditation and commitment to integrity and excellence are further qualities that have interested me in the firm.

Any opportunity to work alongside some of the best and brightest legal minds in this jurisdiction has been further motivation to put forward my candidacy. Practice areas such as Child Care Law stood out for a number of reasons. My thesis concerned the then proposed Article 42A, which allowed me to explore this and other jurisdiction’s approaches. Thus, I have knowledge and an interest in an area that no other commercial firm specialises in. In addition to the above, Data Protection and Freedom of Information will be crucial given the recent Safe Harbour ruling. Green Economy, Renewable Energy and Litigation are some sectors in which I aspire to gain experience. Having previously sought leave to appear at various Queensland Magistrate Courts, the prospect of observing and applying oneself to some of the more complex and (inter-) nationally known cases is an exciting prospect.

I sincerely believe I would make for an interesting fit at Byrne Wallace. In a post recession economy, integrity and excellence are crucial to continue rebuilding domestic and international belief in Irish commercial activities. I have always endeavoured to act with integrity and work to highest levels of excellence, particularly during prior and current legal interning experiences.   
Furthermore, I believe I am a team player, applying a positive and proactive approach to any challenge that arises.

Since March 2015, I have volunteered at a very busy and dynamic local legal practice, which has always required expeditious problem solving skills. Each associate at the firm is expected to take full ownership of all tasks. Nonetheless, there is a culture of support amongst colleagues if any issue(s) arise. This knowledge has allowed me to further build upon prior commercial, legal and academic teamwork experiences.

Since my last application, I believe I have developed into a more career and market focused, well-rounded candidate. Gaining legal experience in Australia and Ireland, coupled with my legal education and life experience outside of academia, has furthered my desire to continue pursing my professional aspirations. I always been proactive, resilient and determined to carve out my place in Irish legal practice. I regard my academic qualifications and national and international experience as evidence of such. In addition, I have pursued FE-1 examinations.

I hope my application resonates with you and demonstrates my determination to secure a position with a progressive, innovative law firm. I look forward to the prospect of hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Stephenson.