Liam Byrne,

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Dear sir/madam,

I am writing to apply for an internship with Byrne Wallace during Summer 2020. This cover letter will explain why I wish to work with Byrne Wallace and why I am suited to the firm.

To begin with I will account for the fact that I am a History student and yet I am applying for a law internship. Studying for my degree has brought me a wide range of skills but those skills are more valuable in a law career, especially one with Byrne Wallace than anything related to History. I want the kind of open career path that Byrne Wallace offers which is a career that utilises what I am good at for good causes.

Secondly, I am attracted to Byrne Wallace’s focus on quality legal advice as well as its commercial drive and client-based solutions to allow businesses and communities around them to flourish. One of Byrne Wallace’s practice areas is Brexit which interests me from a political background as I have been involved with Fine Gael and have organised public discussions on areas such as post-Brexit trade. As chairperson of the Trinity Young Fine Gael branch, I have organised public meetings with politicians and individuals from Trinity Law school on the topic of Brexit as well as the previous blasphemy referendum. I am also attracted to Byrne Wallace’s international outlook, its focus on training and the collegiality of the firm. I want to work in a progressive firm, and one that also has a strong Corporate Social Responsibility especially in community engagement around areas such as the environment and working with people who have a disability. These are areas which I have worked on previously on the Young Fine Gael policy committee. I have also previously lobbied for better rights for people with disabilities locally in West Cork when I was a member of the Clonakilty Access Group.

Thirdly, after having interned with Mason Hayes & Curran solicitors, I have gained experience in several legal practice areas such as commercial litigation and intellectual property rights. I interned under Colin Monaghan and gained a valuable insight into the busy day to day operations of the commercial litigation department and especially when it came to balance several different cases and clients at once. Not only did I learn about the process of litigation, but I also worked closely with Mr. Monaghan on different cases and assisted him with undertaking research as well as engaging in discovery of documents. I was also exposed to the Intellectual Property department where I worked with two associates on establishing trademarks and was tasked with researching any breach of IP rights for several clients.

Fourthly, I am also interested in the areas of tax law, sports law, public and administrative law and Banking law and this appeals to me specifically because these are areas in which I want to pursue a legal career in. Sports law is an area which interests me as I have worked as National Secretary on the Croquet Association of Ireland board and I manage the administrative side of the association, participating in Sports Ireland mid-year reviews, completing the Governance e-code learning programme and reviewing and updating the organisations constitution. I also manage the organisations data protection and ensure that the Croquet Association of Ireland is up to date with current General Data Protection Regulations.

Apart from the experience mentioned above, I am suited to Byrne Wallace due to my interpersonal skills, international outlook and ability to balance various tasks in a high-pressured environment. Working in the office of the Minister of State for Mental Health and Older People, Jim Daly TD, I developed personal but professional relationships with different types of constituents who were Irish and non-Irish alike. Along with success in helping the Minister with duties affecting the constituency, this experience is indicative of my strong interpersonal skills as well as an international outlook as I communicated with people from European Union countries and with those outside the European Union with matters which affected them. In terms of the lawyerly skills of balancing multiple tasks while under pressure, I currently the Secretary of Dublin Young Fine Gael, National Secretary of the Croquet Association of Ireland, Secretary of the Young Fine Gael Policy Committee, all while maintaining the commitment of completing my final year of doing History in Trinity College.

Please consider inviting me to interview. You will not be disappointed!

Yours faithfully,

Liam Byrne