Dear Sir/Madam,

Since my graduation from the UCD Sutherland School of Law in 2014, I have worked in a non-governmental organisation, a boutique American law firm, and a commercial Dublin firm. Having gained valuable experience in such varied aspects of the legal world, I am looking forward to continuing my career towards qualification as a solicitor and hopefully applying my collegiate approach to knowledge sharing and problem solving to the ByrneWallace team.

My interest in commercial law stems from my experience working in a boutique law firm in Chicago where, although I specialized in federal disability law, I was also given the opportunity to work alongside the business owner and to learn how businesses operate on a first-hand basis. I assisted the business owner in managing the accounts receivable of the company, which was a responsibility that I took on in addition to my primary duties. I excelled in improving this vital area of business administration by creating an interactive spreadsheet of money owed to the business, using Google Sheets and Google Docs, through which both I and my boss interacted and organized the accounts receivable of the company, ensuring attorney fee agreements are filed correctly and ironing out any difficulties which hindered money flow into the company accounts.

Working in the area of disability law was not without personal challenges and I am immensely proud of my ability to communicate with clients in a manner that is not only professional, but compassionate. I have represented clients who are at the most vulnerable stage in their lives, and who have trusted me to represent their interests. The ability to handle such pressure, while also dealing with people on a personal level, is a skill that can only be learned through practice, and is one which is invaluable in any area of law, whether it be human rights, commercial, or otherwise. I believe that this is a unique advantage of my experience which would be invaluable to any legal department.

More recently, since returning to Ireland, I have worked as a legal executive in one of the country’s most renowned defendant personal injury litigation teams. I began with very little experience of how the Irish legal system operates in practice and have had to “hit the ground running” in terms of my capacity to learn, apply my new-found knowledge and communicate with and advise clients to the highest standard. I have quickly developed an awareness of the commercial sensitivities which surround legal issues and an understanding of how these need to be considered when providing advice and solutions to clients. Although the broader business environment of the legal world was once an alien concept to me, my practical experience working with Insurer clients has taught me the importance of technical and commercial awareness.

Finally, I believe that my personal attributes match the values with which ByrneWallace has built its reputation. I have demonstrated ability to adapt to new environments and take on challenges head first, while always keeping focus on the main priority of any law firm; the client. Although I am an independent thinker by nature, I have learned how to work as part of an open and honest team, dedicated to serving clients with knowledge, professionalism and integrity. I know that I would be a valuable asset to any department of your firm as I have a strong work ethic, a gritty determination to get things done, and an evidenced ability to handle intense client contact and communication with sensitivity and reliability.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Lorna Verdon