Marcus Dunne

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Byrne Wallace LLP

88 Harcourt Street,

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my interest in applying for a traineeship position in Byrne Wallace.

Byrne Wallace is, in my opinion, one of the most innovative, forward-looking and competitive corporate law firms in Ireland today; its dynamic culture and highly respected reputation are key attractions for graduates, like me, who wish to apply for a traineeship. I note that this year Byrne Wallace was advisor to three winning Finance Dublin ‘Deals of the Year’ and it would appear that this is the fifth consecutive year the firm has been recognised as advising on one of Finance Dublin’s ‘Deals of the Year’. This achievement speaks for itself and cements the firm’s reputation as a major player in the Irish corporate law sphere which greatly appeals to my ambitious nature. I also note that the firm presents the opportunity for graduates to become exposed to a wide range of practice areas through rotations in various departments, such as corporate, funds, employment and consumer law, to name a few in which I am certainly interested. This broad exposure is an enormous incentive for graduates as it allows them to discover the practice area in which they may wish to specialise by the end of the traineeship programme. I see Byrne Wallace as the perfect firm in which I can apply the knowledge I have ascertained throughout my time in university, and importantly, the firm in which I can see my myself (hopefully) having a successful career as a corporate solicitor.

My passion to pursue a career in a corporate law firm derives from my interests in both business and law. It was clear to me at an early stage that my first CAO choice was to be Business and Law at UCD and throughout my years in UCD, it has become apparent to me that whilst I am interested in world of commerce, it was the legal element of my studies that really appealed to me. In this regard, I sought a summer internship in Walls & Toomey Solicitors, after which I realised that a career in law is certainly for me. In fact, I worked for the firm for over three years, during my summer and winter college breaks. During my time there, I was afforded the opportunity to take on more and more responsibility, from researching legal points for Partners to drafting affidavits, and in my final internship, I was responsible for training-in a new intern. I really enjoyed the work-ethic and the attention to detail that was required of me and I found that the problem-solution approach to law perfectly suited my personality. Although I liked working in Walls & Toomey, which is predominantly a family law firm, I believe that Byrne Wallace will afford me with a broader, best-in-class, training experience and I also believe that a firm like Byrne Wallace is a more natural fit for me, particularly noting the business and legal aspects of my degree.

I believe that I am equipped with the skill sets that not only separate me from other candidates, but would be of benefit to Byrne Wallace. With respect to the corporate practice area, I understand that clients rely on their solicitors for not only legal direction but also to perform the role of commercial adviser – this dynamic is of particular interest to me and I believe that the business aspect of my degree will allow me to understand the client’s problem(s) from more than just a legal perspective. With my time in a smaller firm, I have gained excellent inter-personal skills and communication skills, particularly when interacting with clients, which I believe are critically important in order to build relationships with clients and fellow employees. I am confident in my public speaking ability from experience in delivering presentations and debating on various topics in university, and indeed from my time as debating captain for my school team. I work well as part of a team but I believe that I am equally competent when working alone. Finally, I have a strong work ethic and attention to detail, I am experienced in team-based tasks and have a proven ability to work in a supportive and collaborative manner which I believe will match many of Byrne Wallace’s core values.

I do hope that you will strongly consider my application and if you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Marcus Dunne