Marie Claire Cierlica

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Dear Sir, Madam,

I am applying for the Byrne Wallace Trainee Solicitor Programme 2015.

Corporate Law is an exciting, fast paced and notoriously competitive world. Yet Byrne Wallace’s reputation built on stability and trust, complimented by your ability to adapt to new market trends and breadth of knowledge within many areas of the corporate sphere keeps Byrne Wallace on top. These attributes make Byrne Wallace a very attractive law firm for me to work for.

I really admire Byrne Wallace as a law firm, you care about your employees, the local community and environment. I am impressed by your self –awareness and active involvement in reducing your impact on the environment through initiatives like an integrated Environmental Management System. You also add value to the community through supporting organisations combating social problems and aiding community development. This coupled with the diverse and inclusive company culture and the level of training, support and opportunity available within Byrne Wallace are positive factors for me in wanting to join this programme.

I feel I have relevant skills and experience that will help me to succeed in the Byrne Wallace Trainee Solicitor Programme.

I am in the midst of my final year in Trinity College, my law degree has equipped me with relevant knowledge in the areas of Commercial Law, Contract Law, Employment Law and Intellectual Property Law as well as a balance of other modules from Family Law to Human Rights Law. I have developed the ability to critically analyse complex ideas, examine vast amounts of information and synthesise relevant salient points. I have excellent attention to detail and time management skills. I am a confident communicator capable of presenting complex arguments to a group or individually developed through moot court projects. I have developed team work skills through group projects. I feel I have the potential to be an excellent addition to the Byrne Wallace team on the Trainee Solicitor Programme.

My work experience in a civil law firm exposed me to the fundamentals of handling a case, from the level of evidence and investigation required to support a case to the negotiating of settlements and communication with clients and solicitors. My experience in a criminal law firm educated me on professionalism, the necessity to build strong relationships with clients and always keep the client at the centre of decisions. I improved my office skills and experienced the realities of office life. I liaised extensively with clients, barristers and other professionals on the telephone and in person and developed a professional manner. I also realised of the importance of a sense of humour in the office at appropriate times. I feel I am ready to apply and develop these skills further in Byrne Wallace.

My extracurricular activities such as being a member of the French debating team in school helped me communicate with groups and individuals, persuasively and with confidence. I enhanced my team work skills as part of the AIESEC marketing team and leadership and motivational qualities as a karate instructor. I feel strong communication, interpersonal and team work skills are vital to excel on the Byrne Wallace trainee solicitor programme.

I have been told that I am approachable, easy to converse with and demonstrate a confidence in what I say. I have a strong sense of empathy for others. I am hard- working, goal oriented and very motivated to perform with excellence. Through observation of the solicitors and barristers during internships I have seen the importance of adapting to situations which may alter frequently in light of the variety of scenarios and people encountered in different cases. This ability to be a chameleon will help in this programme.

I am excited to be trained in a role that motivates and challenges me and will add value to my life and to those around me through my further development. As Professor Lynda Gratton from the London School of Business pointed out, paraphrased by myself, Generation Y is a generation of paradox we are tech savvy but value face to face. I am a law student from a very traditional study area while I value the old ways and traditions I think it is important to change things up just a little as there is no other way to progress I think this is what Byrne Wallace manages to do with style.

I hope you consider me as a candidate who has the passion, drive and determination to work smart and succeed in Byrne Wallace.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely yours,

Marie-Claire Cierlica