Marie-Juliette Michel

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Dear Byrne Wallace Graduate Recruitment Team,

Dear Mrs Onslow,

I am a final year student in BCL/Maîtrise, a dual law degree in Irish and French laws in University College Dublin and Paris II Panthéon-Assas. I am writing to apply for your 2019 Graduate Programme.

Upon graduation, I will receive qualifying law degrees in Ireland, England and Wales and France. I will obtain two law degrees, a Bachelor of Civil Law from University College Dublin, and the Maîtrise en Droit (Master 1) from Université Paris II Panthéon-Assas. In respect of my BCL degree, I have achieved second class honours grade 1 overall. I sat additional English Law papers and am currently specialising in International Law. This dual law degree has permitted me to develop a good understanding of difference legal systems, in the way they operate as well as the logic behind them.

My interest in pursuing a career in corporate and commercial law began as an undergraduate when I studied company law in Ireland and took part in different career-related events which permitted me to network with Irish and English commercial lawyers. I work shadowed the judge Jeannot Chevron at the Commercial Court of Le Mans in France, enabling me to explore career opportunities in corporate law, by working on liquidation, restructuring, safeguard procedure, receivership, mergers and acquisitions procedures of companies.

I undertook a 7-week summer internship at KPMG in the tax department during which I was able to work on corporate tax and corporate law, through case law research and legal interpretations. Presenting solutions to clients and convincing them about a point of view were some challenging aspects I really appreciated and enabled me to use the method and knowledge I have acquired thanks to me legal studies, which I would be able to develop by working as a commercial lawyer.

Having met representatives of your firm, I have been impressed by Byrne Wallace's unique approach to find innovative ways to provide solutions to clients, maintaining a high level of excellence and distinguishing itself from its competitors, both at national and international level, especially by being awarded Law Firm of the Year at different ceremonies for the past years. The firm highlights the remarkable work done by its female employees and supports them in their career progression which, as a woman, is significant to me. The work done in human and professional terms has therefore been put forward throughout its projects and events, and the development of the use of technology, showing that it thrives to be a firm in the era of times.

Willing to pursue a legal career in Ireland, it is therefore without difficulty that for me Byrne Wallace stands out from its competitors. The collegiality of the working culture permits to work in team, which is for me important. Additionally, the implication in diversity initiatives shows how open minded the firm is and its desire to create an inclusive workplace. The importance given to ecology and charity causes are for me another aspect I appreciate and illustrate how the firm is aware of its environment and help to its continuous preservation and improvement. Byrne Wallace's excellence is also showcased by its presence all over the world, and pursuing a dual law degree, I have been drawn by its international implication.

Furthermore, I have been working as a volunteer journalist and photographer for an amateur French equestrian media since the beginning of second year (2016). Having been accredited as a journalist and photographer for some of the most prestigious show jumping competitions, I have interviewed some of the best riders in the world and worked with highly esteemed journalists and photographers,

who have been acknowledging my work. Throughout this experience, I have learnt to meet professional expectations and improve my writing skills. Team work, communication and being able to work alone and remain calm under high pressure have also been key elements to the successful completion of my tasks, which are skills requisite to become a successful commercial lawyer.

In addition to this experience, I am also trilingual, speaking English, French and Spanish. Having lived in France, Hong Kong and Ireland for my studies, I have a global and open-minded vision which would add value to your firm. I am proficient in Microsoft Office, PowerPoint and Excel, a skill which has been refined over the course of my university years. In addition, I have in this regard obtained the C2i, a computing diploma in 2015.

Ultimately, my professional goal is to begin my legal career in Ireland. I am eager to learn and to build on my professional experiences and I believe that my background and previous experience make me the ideal candidate for this programme and to work as a future employee in your firm.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely yours,

Marie-Juliette Michel