Dear Sir/ Madam,

I am unequivocally interested in a traineeship at Byrne Wallace. I am currently in my final year of studying an L.L.B. Law in Maynooth University, and having achieved average grades of 2:1’s in my first, second and third years, I hope to graduate with a minimum of a 2:1 next year.I have a strong interest in law which began when I was a student in secondary school. I am currently hoping to obtain a traineeship to further my knowledge through gaining further practical experience in the legal field.

A career in law is of paramount interest to me as it encapsulates many values and attributes which are often overlooked, or have diminished in today’s society. Attributes such as integrity, creativity, responsiveness and interpersonal skills are all key in becoming a successful lawyer. I believe that I have a firm grasp on all of the above and I strive to uphold them all in my day to day life.

Furthermore, I am an extremely motivated and driven individual. This can be seen through my engagement in extra-curricular activities in University. I am currently the Vice-President of the Maynooth University Free Legal Advice Centre, have taken part in a number of plays in the Maynooth University Drama Society, attended meetings for the Maynooth University St. Vincent de Paul Society, and played in the Maynooth University Traditional Music Society.

The Free Legal Advice Centre is my current foremost position of responsibility. As Vice-President I possess a number of duties, including but not limited to assisting the president with his duties, attending committee meetings, meeting with staff from the law department and corresponding with solicitors and barristers who assist us with clinics and training sessions, as well as assisting clients at these clinics.

I have also taken part in a number of moots during my time in university, thus furthering my practical experience. I have competed in the Philpot Curran Novice Moot Court Competition, the DCU Moot in the Criminal Courts of Justice, and competed in the Silken Thomas Moot which is held in Maynooth every year.

I gained further experience in the solicitor’s profession last summer when I underwent an unpaid summer internship in DFMG Solicitors for 2 months. I worked closely with Patricia McGovern who is the Chairperson of the firm and the head of the Intellectual Property department. The whole experience gave me an insight into the day to day functioning of a law firm and the overall duties and responsibilities of a practicing solicitor, and fueled my ambition for a future career in law.

I would be honoured if I was given the opportunity to work alongside an esteemed firm such as Byrne Wallace. as I feel it would serve as a means to further my legal knowledge and interest in the profession as a whole.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Matthew Jones.