Michelle Mehigan

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Castlepark Road

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A96E1VT

29th October 2020

2021 Trainee Solicitor Programme

Dear Ms Loftus,

I am an FE-1 candidate and I write to you to apply for the Graduate Training Programme. I am sitting my first four FE-1s in November and my next four in March 2021.

After gaining invaluable experience in the non-profit and business sectors, I have decided to apply these skillsets and pursue a career in law. My internship further cemented my interest in law and ambition to become a solicitor as I was exposed to the daily operations of the legal world and excelled in my assigned tasks.

In researching firms, I have heard fantastic reports regarding ByrneWallace of not only the hands-on nature of the training and exposure right from the beginning, but the responsibility trainees are encouraged to take for their own development whilst also receiving constant support throughout.

From speaking to current Associates, it is clear that ByrneWallace believes there is great value in recruiting a trainee with a range of prior professional experience such as mine. This diversity in hiring is further reflected in the firm’s partnership. Training in Byrne Wallace is an opportunity to learn from some of the top lawyers in Ireland. I am excited by the chance to build on my prior experience in litigation through a rotation in the firm’s award-winning dispute resolution and litigation team.

ByrneWallace’s dominance in the health and social care sector is of great interest to me, evidenced by it being ranked the top legal advisor to the public sector in 2018 and 2019. Particularly, the firm’s work in mental health law and the work undertaken by the Health Services team led by Sinead Kearney. Having most recently worked for the Peter McVerry Trust, I am aware of the complex legal and regulatory framework such bodies operate within and the diverse issues and problems that arise. My insight into the legal aspects of the sector was furthered by my time spent volunteering alongside Solicitor Marcus Keane for the Ana Liffey Drug Project.

A further practice group that appeals to me is the Merger Control team. As the economy responds to Covid-19 there has been increasing commentary both in Ireland and across Europe of competition issues such as state aid and consolidation in the banking industry. Training in ByrneWallace exposes trainees to a leading merger control practice that advises on both Irish and EU law. I would relish in the opportunity to further my legal career by training with your firm.

Please find my CV and Application Form attached. I thank you for taking the time to consider my application.

Yours Sincerely,

Michelle Mehigan