

11th February 2018

Dear Mrs Onslow,

My name is Milena Armene, I am a final year LLB student at Maynooth University and I am writing to you to express my interest in the Byrne Wallace internship programme.

I have interacted with the Byrne Wallace employees on multiple circumstances to date. These occasions have set the firm apart to me as having the most appealing and attractive internship programme, due to its tailored approach towards self-development and exposure to interesting and challenging transactions.

I am highly interested in this role as I find the nature of the job and the work environment within Byrne Wallace to be very exciting. I am particularly attracted by the opportunity of working in a full-service law firm that provides hands-on experience in a meaningful and challenging way, while also giving interns exposure to transactions and clients across different practice areas. I am convinced that the quality of the internship programme will provide the perfect platform for my personal development, idea which has been reinforced by both Ms Sandra Power and Ms Michelle Ní Longáin at the Byrne Wallace Traineeship Event. I was also excited to hear that the programme's structure will provide a detailed insight into the work carried out by a trainee within the firm. In addition, I am eager to experience the small-firm culture characterised by an inclusive, friendly and collaborative work environment. As an intern, I relish the opportunity of being surrounded by supportive and friendly co-workers, to whom I will feel comfortable reaching out for help and advice.

I acknowledge that Byrne Wallace seeks to recruit the most motivated and ambitious students, and I am confident that my work ethic, combined with my strong academic background and legal skills make me a perfect fit for a position in your firm. Since the start of my degree, I have been juggling academics with part-time jobs and extra-curricular activities, which has allowed me to develop an essential set of skills for a career in law. I am currently a legal assistant at Popa & Co. Law Firm, working on personal injuries, employment and family law cases. This experience has equipped me with strong interpersonal and communication skills as I liaised with barristers and clients, both orally and in writing. I further built on my skills through two internship positions, at the Director of Public Prosecutions ("DPP") and the Criminal Courts. As a legal intern with the DPP, I worked with senator Ivana Bacik on a national research project aimed at changing the law. Throughout this work experience, I developed my critical thinking skills as I analysed similar patterns in more than 200 cases. Additionally, as a research intern at the Criminal Courts, I improved my legal writing and research skills by drafting legal documents in advance of court hearings.

Outside university and work, I have enhanced my team working and leadership skills by getting involved in volunteering and extra-curricular activities. I am currently the vice-president for ELSA Ireland, where I oversee the 2018 Moot Court Competition. I further improved my organisational skills as the co-head of the organising committee for two international projects.

Lastly, my motivation to study law stems from my passion to help people and, while I grew more interested in becoming a commercial law solicitor, I have always been involved in human rights activities. I have previously volunteered to defend the elderly and people with disabilities against unfair treatment, and I am currently campaigning with Amnesty International for the refugees' right to work as part of the Direct Provision in Ireland.

I feel that I can make a positive contribution as part of your internship programme and I would welcome the opportunity to further discuss my qualifications, experience and motivation for working for Byrne Wallace. My resume is enclosed for your review. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours faithfully,

Milena Lavinia Armene