Morgane Herve 6 impasse de La Brosse 27190 Le Fresne, France <u>morganeherve@live.fr</u> 0033 6 67 54 17 95

20 October 2017

Byrne Wallace, 88 Harcourt Street, Saint Kevin's Dublin 2

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to apply for a training contract with your firm. I am currently in the final stage of completing my LL.M degree at King's College London in which I have achieved Distinction (First Class Honours) level grades (ranging from 70 to 78) in all the modules. I have previously obtained a BCL degree from University College Dublin (First Class Honours) and a Masters from University Paris II. I intend to start my FE1 examinations next year. I have provided full information on my qualifications and experience in the attached CV.

I am applying to train with Byrne Wallace because of the possibility of undertaking rotations in different areas of interest of mine such as Capital Markets, Mergers and Acquisitions, Corporate and Banking and Finance as well as Byrne Wallace's commitment to Learning and Development and Personal Development during the traineeship. Byrne Wallace, because it has acted for the world's leading corporations interacting with Ireland and is a member of the international law firm network group ALFA international, possesses a multinational dimension which appeals to me due to my international background. I also find the one-to-one training with a partner an invaluable addition to the traineeship which other leading commercial law firms in Dublin do not provide. I attended a presentation and networking event by Byrne Wallace when I was studying in UCD back in 2013 and was thoroughly impressed by the lecture given and how passionate the trainees were by the deals they were working on. In addition, the recent ground-breaking deals of the firm (for instance the acquisition of Simtech by Renatus Capital and Martello Group) and the awards it has received due to the quality of its work (such as Excellence in Client Service Award 2017 and having been nominated as finalist in the prestigious Law Firm of the Year Award 2017) also encouraged me to apply to the Traineeship Programme.

I was drawn to the intellectual challenge and academic rigour of law and after completing a foundation year at the University of Rouen in France where I finished top of my class of 500, after which I was selected as one of only eight students from hundreds of applicants to participate in the accelerated double degree partnership offered by University College Dublin and University Paris II (BCL/Maitrise programme). This enabled me to obtain a Bachelor of Common Law from University College Dublin, a Bachelor in French and Common Law from University Paris II and a Masters in Business Law and French and Common Law from University Paris II in four years instead of eight. In Ireland, having to study law in half the time available to local students was certainly a challenge but one which I embraced and I was proud to be awarded the Round Hall Gold Medal and Prize from the highest GPA in law in UCD and ranking first in the faculty, as well as a Gold Medal and Prize from the Law firm Mason, Hayes & Curran for the highest GPA in Property Law and a Silver Medal and Prize

from the Bank of Ireland and UCD for my performance in Business & Law.

Having gained experience in practice through different internships, I realised that it is increasingly important for lawyers to achieve greater specialisation and a deeper knowledge of the law in their chosen field of expertise. Completing the LL.M in International Financial Law at King's College London, with modules such as Mergers & Acquisitions Regulation, Corporate Finance Law and Law of International Finance, has equipped with me with the skills, deeper understanding and more thorough base of knowledge necessary to pursue the first steps in my career at a firm specialising in Corporate and Commercial Law transactions.

With regard to prior work experience, I have actively sought to gain professional experience and put my academic skills to the test in practice through different internships. My time at Clifford Chance was particularly exciting as I enjoyed exposure to the type of fast-paced and highly commercial environment where I envisage my future to lie. The opportunity to work as part of a team on complex, challenging and varied international transactions was a fantastic experience and enabled me to improve my professional skills and understanding whilst dealing with multiple senior stakeholders both inside and outside the firm. This also enabled me to learn how to prioritise and manage work-loads, cope with conflicting demands on time and develop my interpersonal skills. The firm commended me for my flexibility, communication skills, organisational skills and leadership attitude and awarded me the highest possible scores in all areas of the internship assessment.

I also gained new skills during my internship at Travers Smith during which I was required to draft and review commercial contracts for clients and find inconsistencies, factual and typographical errors, as well as filling in Companies House forms, which also improved my IT skills. Having interned for several legal firms, I understand the importance of building and maintaining professional relationships and coupled with my fluency in languages, I believe that this would make me a useful asset for Byrne Wallace, especially with international clients. I thoroughly enjoyed learning about each client's business and the issue they were facing, as well as implementing and structuring innovative solutions to help them.

The internships I have undertaken made me realise that I want to become a solicitor because every day is different, challenging and exciting and I feel that I possess the initiative, drive and commitment which would make me suited to a training contract with Byrne Wallace.

My recent extracurricular work consists of various charitable work including teaching in a school in Burkina Faso for one month and engagement in initiatives to provide food and drink to the homeless in Dublin and Paris. Being able to positively contribute in local communities by volunteering was incredibly rewarding and I was proud to have taught some children how to read when in Burkina Faso. In future, I would seek to combine my legal and charitable interests through involvement in Pro Bono projects. I also was involved in several societies during my time in UCD, Paris II and King's College London where I further developed my organisational and interpersonal skills.

I am available to provide further information in support of my application at any time and can be reached by email or phone (contact details at the top of this letter).

Thank you for your consideration of my application and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours faithfully,

Morgane Herve