Byrne Wallace

87-88 Harcourt Street

Dublin 2

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Nadia Desmond. I am a third year student in University College Dublin studying Law with Social Justice (BCL). I am extremely keen to intern in Byrne Wallace to gain practical exposure to the law and to enhance my experience in an exciting and fast-paced environment.

I have a strong interest in corporate and commercial law. In March 2015, I was one of a small number of students selected to represent UCD in the Corporate and Commercial Law trip to London. We visited the Magic Circle law firms and completed workshops on commercial awareness, alternative dispute resolution and negotiation. We also had the opportunity to network with trainees, associates and partners. This trip demonstrated for me that I want to work in a corporate law firm like Byrne Wallace. I also have an increased interest in particular areas such as Competition Law, Mergers and Acquisitions, Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution including White Collar Crime due to gaining international exposure of these areas in University of California Davis, School of Law.

I am currently studying Law with Social Justice in the Sutherland School of Law in UCD. This degree interested me as in addition to my interest in law and business, I have an interest in how the law relates to social justice issues. This is the first course of its kind in Europe. I will be in the first set of students to graduate with this degree next year. Therefore, this may be the first application you get from a student from Law with Social Justice. I feel through my study of social justice, I have diverse perspectives on various issues. I am aware of the high degree of importance that the firm attaches to corporate social responsibility including your work for St John of God’s Hospital and Breast Cancer Ireland. These are sentiments that resonate with me as someone studying Law with Social Justice. I am a volunteer at the Student Legal Service clinic in UCD, where I advise students on various legal issues and work on their queries within my spare time. I would like to continue to do volunteering and charity work when I graduate.

I have extensive experience working in offices, where I have developed skills that would be transferrable to this position. I worked in Paul O’Sullivan & Co Solicitors as a legal secretary (see reference) where I had administrative duties and also dealt with clients. I worked in Hanson Capital Management, a property development company, where I used organisational skills and I created a website for a new project. I have also worked in Millward Brown conducting national surveys and collecting data for international companies.

I have had many other part-time jobs whilst in school and college including being part of a promotions and events team and working as a bartender and waitress in a local pub. I believe that my extensive experience across a wide range of industries may set me aside as I have been provided with a large set of transferrable skills relevant to this internship. It also demonstrates that I can balance work and achieve strong academic results. These various jobs have also strengthened my interpersonal skills.

My results are laid out in my CV. In first year I received a 3.7 GPA (First Class Honours). In second year, I received a 3.6 GPA (Second Class Honours, Grade 1) and in third year I received a 3.93 GPA (First Class Honours). These results have ensured that I stay within the top 5 students in my class each year. I feel that these results are indicative of how hard working and determined I am and demonstrate my strong academic ability.

I believe that I would be a strong candidate for the Summer Internship Programme. Aside from having strong academics and extensive work experience, I have endeavoured to expand my skills in a number of ways. I have gained networking and interpersonal skills by completing the UCD Corporate and Commercial law trip to London. I have worked on my teamwork and problem solving skills through group projects in university and by volunteering at the Student Legal Service, giving advice to students on consumer law, landlord tenant law and employment law issues.

I am currently on International Exchange in University California Davis, School of Law. I have chosen modules including Negotiations, International Business Transactions and Corporate and White Collar Crime. In these classes I am learning how to unpack complex corporate transactions whilst also learning the law of a new jurisdiction at graduate level. I believe this will give me practical transferrable skills and knowledge for when I graduate. I also believe that this exchange is enhancing my personal development and demonstrates my adaptability as an individual.

Lastly, I am wholly aware of the experience your internship offers. I will put in all my effort to get the most out of the internship what I can and to be of service to whomever I may be working with, as this is an incredible and unique opportunity for me to put what I have been learning into practice.

I have also enclosed my CV and recent references, which I hope you have time to read. I would be extremely grateful to be given the opportunity to intern at Byrne Wallace. Please do not hesitate to let me know if you require anything else as part of my application.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Nadia Desmond