Niall O’Connor

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To whom it may concern,

I am applying for the Summer Internship programme at Byrne Wallace. I am a 4th year BCL (Clinical) student in UCC and will be finished my undergraduate degree in April 2018.

As you can see from my CV I have a strong academic record, achieving 520 points in my Leaving Certificate and a strong 2.1 in college up to this point, a record I would like to improve on in my final year. This year I have chosen Administration Law, Company Law and Evidence as optional modules and will complete Equity as a compulsory module. Outside of my academic work I have always been involved in the UCC Law Society by competing in Moot Court and debating events. This year I was elected as the Moot Convenor of the Law Society meaning that I am responsible for organising the internal moot events and organising any external events that UCC students would like to participate in. I am also responsible for gaining sponsorship for and running the UCC Moot Open, a competition that attracts participants from all over the Country. My time as Moot Convenor has taught me a lot about how to communicate with others and organise my time efficiently.

I have also worked in three different legal offices. In 3rd year I completed my placement with KOD Lyons Solicitors and FLAC. In KOD Lyons I was responsible for the High Court bails and the Driving Licence Restorations. For the High Court bails I was required to draft the papers, go to prison to take instructions and sign the Affidavit, lodge the papers, brief counsel and attend the case in the High Court. It was a similar procedure for the Restorations. In FLAC I was required to give legal information over the phone in areas such as employment law, family law, probate and wills and general information about how the Courts operated. I was also involved in drafting leaflets in areas of the law that had recently changed, particularly landlord and tenant and employment law. During the Summer of 2017 I worked in Kerman and Co for one month, where I was involved in areas such as company and commercial law. From my experience I have learned about how to work with people in difficult situations, how to draft documents and how the legal profession works. My work experience would allow me to hit the ground running if I was to come in as an intern.

Outside of my education my main passion is sport, particularly golf. I am a 4-handicap golfer with experience of representing both my club and county at provincial level. I still play regularly while in college. I also am an enthusiastic competitive swimmer having achieved “A” grades in all strokes. These sports have taught me the importance of diligence and concentration.

I am interested in the Internship Programme at Byrne Wallace primarily because I am interested in the areas that the firm works in, particularly the areas of commercial and business law and administration law. I have taken a number of modules in these areas this year and would like to continue to work in these areas. Furthermore, when one considers the fact that the economy is growing currently and that this may continue with the impact of Brexit, these areas look exciting to be a part of and Byrne Wallace would be an excellent place to fulfil my potential in these areas. It is clear from looking at the firm’s website that it is trying to capitalise on this which I would like to be a part of.

Yours faithfully,

Niall O’Connor