Niamh Kearney,
21 Carton Court, Maynooth,
Co. Kildare.

February 24, 2016

ByrneWallace,
87-88 Harcourt Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find attached a copy of my application for the summer internship position. I am a final year Law student studying in Trinity College Dublin and am seeking to gain experience in a commercial law firm.
I have previous legal experience in the sphere of public law as I completed an internship in Smithfield Law Centre. Through this position I gained a valuable insight into the operation of the legal system and developed my analytical and problem solving skills. I was tasked with filing affidavits, serving summons, organizing case files and attending appeals tribunals. A major part of my role was researching legal issues and a valuable skill I developed was learning how to apply the law to real life scenarios, rather than merely studying it in the abstract which is often the norm in University. Another key part of the position was attending consultations with clients. Consultations allowed me to develop my communication and listening skills, ensuring that the client felt that they were understood and that the best possible service was being provided to them. I have also gained legal experience through various university societies. In FLAC for example, I have led a number of research projects on various issues and have also assisted at Legal Aid Clinics. I believe that the legal skills I have developed would be useful in an internship position and I hope to further develop these skills in a commercial setting.
I would like to be an ByrneWallace intern to gain an insight into the field of commercial law; particularly as now appears to one of the most interesting times to be involved in commercial law, with 2015 being labelled the most valuable year for corporate deal making in Ireland. I am interested in the fast paced lifestyle and the challenge that commercial law offers. After working as a leader of a sales team in Roar Promotions, I gained an insight into how a small business operates, what drives a business and what factors influence how it operates. I enjoy the fact that the commercial market is always changing and that the most successful clients are those who anticipate that change and adjust accordingly. Working in a number of part time jobs has exposed me to a number of different working environments and I have become eager to understand what makes different businesses tick. A major skill I have is commercial awareness, not only through reading articles and journals but also the ability to put developments into the legal context and apply them to real life scenarios. My involvement in Moot Court on International Competition Law has been a helpful tool in this regard, both developing my debating and communication skills but also requiring me to keep informed of commercial developments. Studying modules linked to commercial law through my course have given me an insight into how complex and interesting the area is and made me eager to learn more. I have also been involved in a number of fundraising projects, most recently completing the *Camino de Santiago* to raise funds for St Vincent de Paul and organizing events for the *100 minds* project in aid of Temple Street Children’s Hospital. These projects offered me a great opportunity to develop my organizational skills and also a basic understanding of financial and commercial concepts.
I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to gain this experience in a firm with such an outstanding reputation as ByrneWallace. I am particularly interested in the huge area of law that the firm covers, from Child Care Law to Intellectual Property Law, and the depth of legal knowledge that an internship position would offer. I have previous experience working in Child and Family law and have followed a number of cases in which ByrneWallace has had an involvement in the area, particularly the recent Supreme Court decision in the case of Child and Family Agency v OA. I am fascinated by the large scale merger and acquisition deals that have dominated the news in recent years and I am keen to gain an insight into this continuously growing area of the law. I believe that the firm’s involvement in deals such the merger between pharmaceutical companies Cosmo and Salix are a testament to its excellence. It would be an honour to work in a firm at the forefront of many of the deals I have come across in my studies.
The values of ByrneWallace personally resonate with me. Throughout various positions and projects I am always eager to embrace new technologies and so would appreciate the opportunity to work in such a progressive law firm. I am hugely interested in the various projects in which the firm participates in line with their commitment to the Corporate Responsibility policy and given my involvement in a number of charity organizations, this particularly appeals to be. I have experience in various customer service roles and understand the importance of ensuring that the needs of the client are met and of providing an excellent quality of service. Lastly, I am impressed by the focus the firm places on the expertise of its professionals and I believe that an opportunity to learn from them would offer me the best possible start to my legal career.

I am available for interviews at your convenience.

Thank you in advance for reviewing my application.

Kind Regards,

Niamh Kearney