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6/01/2016

Dear Ms. Onslow,

I am a penultimate year student in Trinity College Dublin, pursuing a Bachelor’s degree in Law. After speaking to representatives from ByrneWallace at a careers presentation in my university, and having researched the firm further online, I was impressed with what I learned about the firm, and the structure of the internship programme. I would be most grateful if you would consider my application for a position on the Summer Internship Programme for your firm for 2017.

In university, I have gained an appreciation for the theory and academic study of law. Whilst this continues to interest me greatly, it was my experience of legal practice acquired during my time in both Mason Hayes and Curran and B Vincent Hoey & Co. Solicitors that cemented by passion for the subject. In Mason Hayes and Curran, I was exposed to the ways in which law could intersect with real-life issues, and provide a vehicle through which I could use my skills and knowledge to provide solutions to those problems. Working in financial services for example, I saw the direct role that lawyers could play in supporting business and industry in a changing economy, something that I found to be very rewarding. Similarly, in B Vincent Hoey & Co., I was afforded the opportunity to develop the skills of research and drafting that I had learned in Mason Hayes and Curran, and to apply them to different contexts such as conveyancing and personal injuries claims. The opportunity to apply skills, and the broad choices that I saw first-hand that law could offer very much confirmed my desire to practice as a solicitor. Moreover, my experience in both firms has made me appreciate high performance and team-work in the workplace, as well as ensuring that clients needs and expectations are always met.

Having formed part of the Irish delegation at both the European and World Debating Championships, I know the value of clear communication, and have developed a keen ability to analyse and distil complex concepts into effective and persuasive arguments. This is a skill that I have carried forward to my work as Deputy News Editor of the University Times, proving my aptitude for both written and oral communication. I am a quick learner, and am receptive to the demands of pressurised situations. As well as helping to lead a team of writers to produce high-quality written content, often on short deadlines, I last year organised two of the largest debating competitions in these islands: the Trinity Intervarsity and Trinity Women’s Open. Between them, the two competitions had over 300 competitors, for whom I helped to organise food and accommodation, in addition to ensuring the competition ran smoothly on the day.

In my summer jobs at the Centre for Talented Youth, and Red Mountain Open Farm I was entrusted with the safety of minors, which has afforded me a unique appreciation for conscientiousness and the need to react calmly and effectively to difficult situations. These things I feel would be a distinct advantage in a high calibre law firm where attention to detail and the ability to adapt in difficult situations are of paramount importance.

I am applying for an internship at ByrneWallace because the firm has a diverse range of practice areas, many of which interest me greatly. My background in Advanced EU Law for example means that I was most interested to see that the firm has formed a multidisciplinary Brexit team to deal with the wide ranging implications of last June’s referendum. Similarly, the firm’s expertise in everything from capital markets, to data protection, and health and social care mark ByrneWallace as a broad-thinking firm, something which I admire greatly. I bring energy and enthusiasm to the work that I am presented, and I relish new tasks that I am given. I hope that you will consider my application and I would be grateful for an opportunity to meet with you and discuss my application in further detail.

Yours Sincerely,

Niamh Egleston