Balcunnin,
 Skerries,
 Co. Dublin

 23 October 2015
87-88 Harcourt Street,
Dublin 2

To whom this concerns,

I am a LL.M student at Trinity. I would like to apply for a training contract at Byrne Wallace. Having met representatives of the firm at various careers fairs UCD and Trinity, I was impressed by the firm’s stellar reputation, ethos and excellent traineeship programme.

The work experience I undertook as a legal intern solidified my determination that I am suited to a career in law. I particularly enjoyed researching legal queries and investigating their practical implications on a company. For example, I was asked to investigate the intersection between the Freedom of Information Act and tender bids for public service contracts. This interest is aligned with Byrne Wallaces’s philosophy of applying critical legal analysis to practical business problems, an ethos that is perfectly illustrated through the firm’s award winning litigation case, Hogan, where the firm acted in proceedings addressing Ireland's failure to adequately transpose provisions of the EU Insolvency Directive.

I am attracted to working at Byrne Wallace as it is a firm perfectly suited to the globalised world of business. I am particularly interested in technologies law, which I am studying as part of my LLM programme. I understand that the firm has particularly excellent expertise in this area. I want to use the law as an instrument to solve and pre-empt the challenges businesses face. For example, I have studied data protection in technologies law. Exploring how developments in this area law, such as the recent Schrems decision will impact on corporations is interesting, particularly in the current climate, as many multinational firms, such as Twitter, have relocated their user data to Ireland. It would be intriguing to not only witness, but work on cases that are affected by this legal and market shift, especially with Byrne Wallace's impressive clientele in the technologies market, most notably advising Failte Ireland on its Discover Ireland app.

Through debating and mooting, I've developed strong critical analytical and advocacy skills which are perfectly suited to areas of law that require negotiation, such as cross border transactions, or strategic litigation. The firm’s scale and quality of work on M&A transactions, such as advising Cosmo Pharmaceuticals conveys an awareness and understanding of the complex multijurisdictional scope of the law in an international context at a level unprecedented at many other Irish firms. Working on cases of this scale affords the opportunity to learn from experts in their field, especially at a time when the volume of M&A transactions is rising due to recent developments in Competition Law.

The quality of the internship programme enticed me to train at Byrne Wallace. Given the firm’s extensive range of specialities, including niche areas of law, and wealth of seat options for trainees; Byrne Wallce is an obvious choice. With Byrne Wallace’s impressive clientele, from multinationals to institutional clients; there is scope to challenge myself working on exciting and engaging projects during the traineeship.

I am an ideal candidate that would fit in perfectly with the culture of the firm; I am a high achieving individual who managed to successfully balance my academics with a multiplicity of extra-curricular activities, whilst managing to work part time during my degree. This is a work ethic that I intend to keep throughout my career with the firm.

Thank you for considering my application, and I will look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Niamh Harford