Ms Olivia Ciornii

13 Tara Court Square,

Navan, Co Meath

29/10/20

Ciara Loftus  
Human Resources Partner  
Byrne Wallace  
88 Harcourt St,  
Dublin 2

Dear Ms Loftus,

I am a final-year Bachelor of Civil Law and Economics student at University College Dublin, expecting to graduate in 2021 with first-class honours. I am writing to apply for the 2021 trainee solicitor programme with Byrne Wallace.

I found myself drawn to corporate law when I was chosen for the Solicitors of the Future Programme with the Law Society of Ireland in my fifth year of secondary school. This interactive programme provided an insight into the life of a corporate solicitor in Ireland. In pursuing my curiosity further, I chose to study Banking and Competition Law more in-depth. This knowledge aided my understanding of commercial developments and their impact. My interest in financial dealings resulted in me taking the step to complete a four-week online course on the Introduction to Financial Trading and Investment, alongside my full-time summer job. In the two years at my job, I became a team leader, responsible for enforcing safety rules and completing the administration of paperwork. I enjoy the confidence I have developed from this opportunity and this eventually led me to take part in the UCD Law Society Mooting Competition in which I placed as a finalist and ultimately won. The competition enabled me to test my skills in competitive circumstances emulating business dealings all while arguing my client’s case.

During the first year of my degree, I attended a Byrne Wallace information evening which provided an understanding into the firm’s commercial dealings and culture. During the event, I got the opportunity to discuss the firm’s superiority with some of your trainees. I was impressed by their approachability and enthusiasm. Additionally, I was excited to learn about Byrne Wallace’s excellence across numerous departments, with a top tier ranking, the firm is an Irish market leader.

It would be a privilege to complete my traineeship with Byrne Wallace, after having the opportunity talk to some of the firm’s trainees, it was highlighted that trainees are exposed to challenging and fast-paced work. Byrne Wallace is at the forefront of legal development during challenging times, which is evident in the webinar hosted by the firm in navigating life with Covid-19. Byrne Wallace is performing its part in advising the public, particularly evident from the firm’s Top Legal Advisor to the Public Sector Award. Byrne Wallace’s corporate responsibility adds another reason to my desire to work for this firm. Its partnership and dedication to Breast Cancer Ireland and Special Olympics Ireland makes it clear that the firm values societal gain. Again, further showcased in the firm being awarded Ireland’s Top Firm in the Private Rented Sector.

Since my first year of secondary school, I have been part of my local running club, this is a fulfilling experience due to the team bonding. In January 2020, I ran 15km in aid of raising funds for Breast Cancer Research and the event raised over €5,000. With taking part in the UCD community, I have developed my teamwork and communication skills further. In October 2019, I participated in the annual Cancer 24-Hour Relay for Life in UCD which raised €9,500 for charity. I volunteered as a Peer Mentor to first year students, during my second year of my degree. I gained their trust and respect by connecting to them and discussing my personal experiences. This role aided my interpersonal skills. I was also elected the Law with Economics Stream Representative which developed my organisational and presentation skills by coordinating reports to the Student’s Union on the progress of the Class of 2021. Excelling in performance, one of the firm’s core values, is something that I appreciate. I have consistently ranked within the top 20%, ranking first of Law with Economics in my first year and eighth of 108 in my second. The high standard of performance expected of the firm’s trainees is an environment and team that I would very much wish to be a part of.

Please accept this cover letter and my enclosed Curriculum Vitae as an introduction to my proficiencies and background. I look forward from hearing from you to discuss my application further.

Yours sincerely,

Olivia Ciornii