

23-10-2015

Dear Sir/Madame,

My name is Orla Mannion and I am currently in my final year of studying Economics, Politics and Law at Dublin City University.

Corporate and commercial law are two areas that I have found particularly fascinating over the course of my studies. Both fast paced, dynamic and constantly changing, they are two staple components in how the modern world functions and is operated.

Corporate law holds a particular attraction, due to the inherently unique and varying nature of its application in various cases, and its accompanying challenges. It's need for a high level of capability in identifying a client's business needs and aims, practicing law to the effect of attaining these objectives, having commercial acumen and the ability to negotiate, proves it to be an engrossing area of law. Particularly, after following Great-West Lifeco's recent acquisition of Irish Life, I am interested in acquisitions, and also multi-jurisdictional mergers.

Commercial law is also a highly compelling area of law. It's quickly evolving, constantly adjusting nature renders it a highly interesting and stimulating area of law, where an element of creativity, the ability to successfully negotiate and stay current with changes is an absolute requirement. As quoted in the *Lex Mercatoria*, "Commercial law ought to be a reflection of the constantly changing ideas of conduct that merchants may take." The ability to work well with clients is also mandatory in this area, along with excellent communication skills.

ByrneWallace excels in both these areas, as exemplified by awards such as recently won 'Employment Law Team of the Year 2015', the 'Lexcel Standard of Excellence', not to mention countless others.

I am also massively interested in Environmental Law, it definitely being an area I would love to do further study and research in, as it is something I feel quite passionate about. This is another area that ByrneWallace has extensive experience in, proving it to be a firm of many strengths.

The calibre of solicitors working for is exceedingly high, all contributing to its prestigious reputation. Recent successes successes and work such as advising Clavis Insight on their multi million equity investment from Accel-KKR and advising Zalando SE the establishment of its Irish tech operations in Dublin's Silicon Docks, only further highlight that ByrneWallace is most definitely one of the leading law firms in Ireland, and to have the opportunity to work there would be a privilege.

I feel that I have practiced skills that are necessary for working in these areas, along with a passion for the practice of law.

I would consider myself to be a dynamic, capable, hardworking and integrity-driven person, committed to giving my all to everything I attempt.

Through various endeavours over the years (further specified in my CV), such as taking part in debating societies and public speaking, getting elected and working on student councils, operating in leadership roles through mediums of school, scouts and other extracurricular activities, I feel that I have the necessary basis for moving forward into a legal profession. I would be honoured if I received the opportunity to do this in your firm.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter, I hope to hear from you.

Best Regards,

Orla Mannion