1 Coppinger Wood

Stillorgan Road

Blackrock

Co. Dublin

ByrneWallace

88 Harcourt Street,

St. Kevins,

Dublin,

D02 DK18

Dear Sir/Madame,

I’m writing to you to apply for a place on this firms trainee solicitor programme. I have completed a Bachelor of Civil Law in NUI Galway where I obtained an overall degree result of a 2:1 (66%) and I’ve recently completed a master’s degree offered jointly by UCD and Michael Smurfit Graduate School; MSc International Law and Business in which I’m expecting to receive first-class honours. I’m currently studying to undertake my first four FE1 examinations in October 2019 in criminal law, E.U. law, company law and contract law.

As ByrneWallace is a full service law firm which serves the needs of internationally focused companies and financial institutions, I feel my skill set is highly applicable. Furthermore, as I’ve had the opportunity to study in Smurfit as part of my MSc, I’ve increased my commercial awareness and developed a greater appreciation for innovation and efficiency in the field of law. Having met multiple trainees, solicitors and partners from ByrneWallace in NUIG, UCD and Smurfit, I’ve had the opportunity to discuss my career prospects with them and I believe that I would be an exceptional fit in this firm due to my academic ability, determination to succeed and strong interest in current affairs and the business world. Through my experience in both the Office of the Attorney General and JFM Solicitors in Galway, I understand the need for clarity, certainty and consistency especially in an area as detail-oriented as litigation. I believe I’ve demonstrated an ability to provide this high standard of work as well as an eagerness to learn and improve my knowledge and skills. Additionally, in lieu of a thesis for my master’s degree, I completed a group project under the supervision and direction of Arthur Cox solicitors. My team and I were asked to develop policy guidelines for internet service providers who employ human content moderators. This project was an excellent experience to work with accomplished solicitors and was hugely informative as it related to presenting legal and academic work in a client friendly manner.

My interest is in the area of corporate law, particularly; commercial litigation, banking and financial law as well as contract law. I became interested in these subjects as an undergraduate as I found them engaging and topical. I pursued further education in this field and I’ve found that my master’s programme, the MSc International Law and Business, not only validated my professional interest in these areas but further challenged my understanding and ability to apply my knowledge of corporate law. Thus far, my legal education in the area of corporate law has been demanding but fulfilling and I’m eager to apply what I’ve learned in a top, international commercial firm.

For my part, I have strong communication skills which I believe are crucial for a successful corporate law career. I’ve developed these skills through school and college and further adapted them while working with legal professionals. I am approachable and personable and former employers complemented me on my ability to integrate well into new working environments. While independent and self-confident, I am also adaptable and pragmatic. I’m confident adopting a leadership position within a group and as a team player I’m always quick to provide assistance wherever I can; qualities which I believe will be invaluable to me within ByrneWallace.

In conclusion, I have the legal knowledge, commercial acumen and work ethic to excel in this firm as a legal assistant and in a larger role going forward.

Yours faithfully,

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Owen O’Hanrahan