

Patrick Dunne,
1 Hamilton Mews,
Rock Road,
Dundalk

To whom it may concern,

I am currently studying Law and Society in Dublin City University and I hope to graduate in 2017 with Bachelor of Civil Law (BCL). I am seeking the opportunity to intern with Byrne Wallace. I believe I possess strong research and analytical skills, as well as a very strong understanding of the current commercial and political climate which affects not only the legal profession but also the companies they provide services to.

The opportunity to intern is not only a fantastic learning experience for me, but would also allow me to contribute to the work of Byrne Wallace as one of the premier legal firms in Ireland. Innovation is key for any aspirant solicitor, and it remains one of the fundamentals for success in a competitive legal services market. Although I am not from a background, or indeed a university, which is steeped in legal tradition, the time I have spent engaging in legal advocacy provides me with a skillset that lends itself to critically analysing a problem and finding practical solutions. In winning the National Moot Court Competition 2016 we successfully overcame 3rd year and 4th year teams from UCD, TCD and UCC.

I also believe that my experience operating in politics will set me apart from other applicants. During my time in Leinster House I represented the Fianna Fáil Chief Whip at briefings and meetings and I believe I did so with dignity and tact. Businesses cannot escape the current politics climate; it shapes the environment they operate in and defines the economic choices we all make. A strong knowledge of that world, which we all inhabit, is therefore invaluable. No two clients are the same, each has its own unique reputation and values. Commercial considerations may weigh heavily on the decision making process of one client, while public policy decisions may force the hand of another. The technically soundest legal advice for a client may, in fact, constitute a poor decision in the real world we operate in. The role of the Partners and Associates of Byrne Wallace as members of a leading commercial and public sector firm is to marry the two, to offer first class legal advice which is actionable. My strong appreciation of how Ireland's political system operates, coupled with my general commercial awareness would, I believe, make me a strong candidate for this position.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your consideration, and I hope to hear from you.

Yours faithfully,

Patrick Dunne.