

Bona Vista  
Foxrock Park  
Foxrock  
Dublin 18

ByrneWallace  
88 Harcourt Street  
Dublin 2

19<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Re: Trainee Solicitor Programme Application

Dear Ms. Onslow

I would like to apply for a position on the Trainee Solicitor Programme in ByrneWallace. I have uploaded my CV, as requested.

I am in the final year of my law degree (BCL) in UCD, expecting a 2:1 on completion. My intention since beginning my college studies has been to pursue a career in law and I am now keen to begin my traineeship with a progressive and forward thinking law firm. I am impressed by the commitment of ByrneWallace to supporting my transition from college while facilitating the development of my technical knowledge and legal skills through specific learning and development programmes. If successful, I will bring my academic, personal and life skills to this position and programme. In particular, my strong work ethos, energy, commitment, teamwork and interpersonal skills which have been developed during my college experience and my part-time jobs, as pool lifeguard and GAA referee. For example, as a lifeguard in UCD Sport and Fitness, my day regularly begins poolside at 5.30am while continuing to my lectures and hurling training thereafter.

As you can see from my CV, there are many skills which I regularly demonstrate and practice in such positions and as an avid sports person, playing golf and hurling. For example:

- Leadership skills – In my role as a GAA referee, I am entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring the safety of each player and the control of the game while dealing with the management and parents of both teams. In doing so, I have developed the ability to make decisions under pressure, communicate clearly to an emotive group of players, manage conflict situations as managers argue against decisions and be a strong leadership presence throughout the game.
- Teamwork and building relationships – I have developed excellent interpersonal and teamwork skills, and a wide network of relationships, from my participation in individual and team sports over many years. An out-going personality, with an ability to communicate effectively with a diverse range of people, an ability to work under pressure and adaptability in team situations are all essential in my duties as a GAA referee and pool lifeguard.
- Integrity – As a golfer and member of Dun Laoghaire Golf Club, demonstrating integrity is a key component of the game.
- Communication skills – I have developed my communication skills during my time in college e.g. delivering presentations to lecturers and fellow students. In addition, as a referee, I must be able to communicate effectively and simultaneously to a diverse range of people, from players, to parents, to managers. Both of the aforementioned experiences have undoubtedly enabled me to be comfortable talking in front of an audience, understanding the need to engage an audience while clearly communicating the key messages, characteristics that are irrefutably important in a law career.

My semester in Osgoode Hall Law School, Toronto exposed me to a different culture and has increased my resilience and ability to adapt to new situations.

I would be delighted to be offered an opportunity to share my experiences with you and discuss the value I would bring to the ByrneWallace Trainee Solicitor Programme.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Comerford