Dear Sir/Madam

I am an undergraduate at UCD where I am currently in my final year of studying Law with French Law. I would like to put myself forward as a candidate for an internship at Byrne Wallace

What first drew me to apply to ByrneWallace was the firm’s expansive areas of expertise. During my time at UCD I have taken the opportunity to study widely; I have taken Japanese, environmental law, and criminology. I relish new learning opportunities and I thoroughly dislike the idea of a career that is stagnant. At ByrneWallace I believe that progress and innovation and constant learning and development are ideals that the firm strives for. As such, I would be delighted to spend my time here.

As part of my degree I spent a year abroad in France where I studied French Civil Law and undertook a diploma in European Union Studies. This opportunity to study the legal system of another country, vastly different from the Irish system and to engage in an in-depth study of the EU has been immensely beneficial in allowing me to develop a more well-rounded, global appreciation of the law that few other law students achieve. Such an appreciation, I believe, will be very helpful in an international law firm such as ByrneWallace given the influence of the EU in shaping Irish law nowadays.

Although most of my work experience is not of a legal nature I believe that these experiences have equipped me with invaluable skills that are applicable to working in a law firm. My time as an administrative assistant allowed me to the opportunity to work in an office environment where I learnt the importance of organisation and good presentation. Furthermore, my experiences as a student leader and street outreach coordinator may not seem particularly relevant at first glance but they have shown me how to work well with others to do tasks as efficiently as possible, and how to confront problems as they arise. As a street outreach coordinator, I was responsible for the welfare and safety of the volunteers under my watch and this really taught me the importance of mastering the skills of flexibility and quick decision making when adverse situations arose. These are skills that I believe would be well-utilised in the legal world where situations are constantly changing and adaptations must be made. My time as a volunteer in the student legal clinic also taught me the importance of communicating in a concise, clear, and jargon-free manner, a skill important for all would-be lawyers!

Thank you for taking the time to read my application, I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Gahan