

Dear Sir/Madam

18/10/2016

I wish to apply for the position of Trainee Solicitor as advertised on your firm's website.

I have successfully attained a high II.I Bachelor of Corporate Law degree from National University of Ireland, Galway. Since graduating I have held positions with Eversheds, Ireland as well as Allied Irish Banks (AIB) and am currently employed as a Legal Executive with McCann FitzGerald. To date I have completed 5 of the Law Society's Fe-1 exams and sat three further exams earlier this month.

Having worked from the age of sixteen, I am a driven, enthusiastic and highly motivated individual. Many years of experience in the hospitality industry have contributed to my excellent oral communication skills complimented by an equally high level of written skills acquired during my academic studies. These traits have been further developed as a result of over a year's experience working with large law firms in Dublin city, working closely every day with experienced senior associates and partners, being in receipt of client instruction first hand before working closely with my superiors in order to ensure successful execution.

During the summer months of 2014 I worked part time in a full practice law firm, Michael Houlihan & Partners, Ennis. Here I gained valuable experience and enhanced my knowledge in terms of exposure to the legal environment as well as working closely with qualified and recognised legal professionals. This experience and learning allowed me establish a firm foundation upon which I have expanded my skills and knowledge when afforded the opportunity.

Upon completion of my University course, I was employed by Allied Irish Banks as a Bank Official. While working there I successfully completed two QFA exams, Loans and Regulation, earning APA designation. This period was a steep learning curve for me but one of tremendous value none the less, demonstrating to me the value of being able to deal with pressures both in a temporal sense but also with regard to workload. Here I significantly developed my skills in dealing with problems, be it disgruntled customers or issues with the cash balances upon close of business. Quite early on however I realised it was not where I saw my career long term, and so set about sitting my legal exams, leaving the Bank.

In September 2015 I began work with Eversheds, Ireland on secondment in the office of the Private Residential Tenancies Board (PRTB), now the RTB. While in this role I worked in both the Tribunal and Enforcement section, ensuring that the actions of the Board was in compliance with the Residential Tenancies Act, and that the client's needs were met to the highest standard.

I am currently employed as a legal executive with McCann FitzGerald. This has afforded me the opportunity to work closely alongside highly experienced individuals, and my position in the Dispute Resolution and Litigation Department has allowed me to become involved in several of the high profile cases which have arisen following the country's banking crisis. I am also involved in the firm's largest ever discovery project. This has

allowed me to acquaint myself with the process of discovery as a whole and has resulted in proficient skill using a number of e-discovery platforms.

As evidenced by the above and echoed by my CV, I have obtained considerable experience across quite a range of roles following the completion of my college course. I feel that it is now time, however, to take the next step and become a qualified legal professional. I would be extremely grateful for the opportunity to do so at a firm as progressive and well respected as Byrne Wallace.

I trust you will consider my application and I look forward to a favourable reply. My CV has also been attached to my application form and should you require any clarification or further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Rory Coughlan