19/10/2016

**Re: Traineeship Application**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to apply for a place in your traineeship programme. I graduated in the top 30% of my class from the UCD Business & Law programme this year with a strong 2:1 honours degree and have just completed 4 FE-1 exams.

As can be seen from my CV, I have gained previous experience in legal firms, having worked in a medium sized firm based in Limerick City (11 solicitors plus support staff) which specialises principally in insurance defence work, secured bank lending and general commercial law and, more recently, in the Property and Corporate Recovery departments in Eugene F Collins. It is my understanding that your firm has a large and varied commercial law practice, hence my interest in seeking a traineeship with Byrne Wallace.

I originally chose B&L as I have a keen interest in both the legal and commercial fields, and I believe that the 4 year course has provided me with excellent insight into both of these areas. The course has fuelled my interest in, and aptitude for, commercial law, the business side of my degree having allowed me to supplement my legal and writing skills with good strategic thinking and problem solving abilities.

From my research of legal traineeships in Dublin, I feel that the size and areas of expertise of Byrne Wallace would suit my practical knowledge and commercial law interests, particularly my interest in employment law, an area in which your firm are the leading Irish practitioners. I am eager to work in an established firm with such a strong professional reputation spanning a broad range of commercial practice areas.

As is detailed in my CV, I have extensive work experience, both legal and otherwise to date and, through this, have developed some of the skills I believe are required for this role. In my previous internships, I approached all tasks and challenges with efficiency and enthusiasm, with my attitude and attention to detail being praised by my employers. I believe that I am a hard-working, determined individual who recognises the importance of both teamwork and meeting deadlines. While I have no doubt that I would thoroughly benefit from a traineeship at Byrne Wallace, I believe that my work ethic can bring some value to your firm.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my application.

Rory O’Dowd