Ruairi Clinton

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17 October 2018

88 Harcourt St

Saint Kevin's

Dublin

D02 DK18

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to express interest in the Trainee Development Programme with ByrneWallace. I am at present a paralegal at Arthur Cox, currently being deployed on the Legal Tech and Innovation Services team. To date I have sat and passed six of the FE-1 examinations. I graduated from Maynooth University in September of 2017 and spent the penultimate year of my degree studying abroad at Fordham University in New York City. Living in New York really instilled in me an appreciation for the world of commerce. The trainee programme was made aware to me by trainees within the firm, by whom it is highly regarded. It is my intent to pursue a career in law, and I can be sure that if I were to be trained in your firm that I would be provided with world class training.

Through the pursuit of a BCL degree in Law and Business from Maynooth University, I have developed a rounded knowledge of the Irish legal system. In addition to this I have gained an understanding of the fundamentals of the business of law. As a member of the campus Law Society, I have been kept up to date on recent developments in commercial law which greatly intrigued me. My academic year in Fordham included studying business-based modules such as economics and was followed by a management internship in South Carolina. This gave me on the ground experience in an alternative sector of the business world and piqued my interest in the crossover between the business and legal sectors.

The experience of managing a work-study balance while commuting to university has provided me with the time management skills that are necessary for the often hectic schedule of that of a commercial law firm. My first job in college was as a barista in Costa Coffee, a client-facing role that required that I develop significant customer service abilities. From here I moved to Lidl, where with minimum staffing levels, I learned to structure tasks by their order of priority. My first experience in the legal world was as an intern at Hayes Solicitors, where working on brief production and discovery review made me aware of the attention to detail necessary to thrive in a commercial law firm. My current position is that of a paralegal on the Legal Tech and Innovation Services team at Arthur Cox, where working on such a diverse subject matter and with a large team has expanded my commercial experience and interpersonal skills.

There are three main reasons why I wish to become a ByrneWallace Trainee. The primary consideration in my decision to apply for the training contract at your firm is that ByrneWallace has built a reputation for quality among the legal community in Ireland. I know that if I were to be trained here then I could be certain of being provided training of the highest standard. I am aware of the considerable resources devoted to the development of trainees in a professional capacity. This to me shows the dedication to training and the attitude necessary to facilitate it. However the training alone is not the whole story. The second reason is that ByrneWallace is a full service law firm with the opportunity to work on projects with dedicated specialist teams, while also gaining an understanding of general commercial practice. Finally I am drawn to the culture at ByrneWallace. “ByrneWallace operates an open door policy where partners and solicitors are accessible and willing to include trainees in every step of interaction with clients and transactions” was a quote I came across on the Life as a Trainee section of the ByrneWallace website. That really stood out to me, as that is the type of firm that I am looking for. I am looking for a law firm that fits me, I am looking for a law firm where I can commit to a career and I believe that law firm is ByrneWallace.

Together, I believe my educational background and experience makes me a suitable a candidate for the trainee position at your firm. Thank you for taking the time to consider my application.

Yours sincerely,

*Ruairi Clinton*