Dear Sir/Madam,

As a final year Business and Law student, it is with great enthusiasm that I am writing to apply for the Byrne Wallace Traineeship Programme. I recently completed a summer internship in a leading corporate law firm which solidified my interest in pursuing a career in corporate law and bolstered my willingness to learn. I believe that my legal knowledge coupled with my business acumen and well-rounded personality are a perfect match for this traineeship.

Byrne Wallace is one of Ireland's leading law firms and is well known for producing highly regarded lawyers. The firm’s emphasis on providing excellent training is very appealing for a student eager to pursue a career in law. I believe that Byrne Wallace’s dedication to my learning and development would encourage me to progress both personally and professionally.

Byrne Wallace’s diverse client base includes both the private and public sector, many of whom face complex legal issues. As I am a diligent worker, I would embrace the challenge of having to resolve these issues and appreciate the international exposure. The high-profile cross-border nature of their cases, such as their work with Xtremepush Limited, would be the kind of work I would want to contribute to. If I received this traineeship, I would be excited to do my seats in a variety of areas to develop new interests and expand my professional knowledge.

I welcome the firm’s culture of decency and collaboration, as was outlined by the managing partner at the recent Trainee Insights Webinar. The employees at this Webinar all spoke highly of their experience in the firm which they attribute to their treatment as uniquely valued team members and the wide scope available within the firm to move around the various departments, which I would love to experience. I resonate with Byrne Wallace’s values of honesty and integrity. Further, the firm’s emphasis on a work-life balance, which they encourage through various social events, is appealing to me when deciding where to work.

From a professional development perspective, I am a member of the UCD Student Legal Service which involves participating in clinics to assist students with legal issues such as tenancy and employment.I enjoy putting my legal education to practical use and thinking on my feet.I also enjoy challenging myself in group competitions, such as the McCann FitzGerald Negotiation Competition and the Enactus EY Case Study Competition. These experiences developed my professional collaboration skills greatly and enhanced my ability to solve problems creatively through distilling complex issues into intelligent solutions.

Following a peer-vote, I was recently elected as ‘Class Rep’ for my course of which I am very proud as it demonstrates my personability and initiative. This involves representing my class at Student Council meetings and organising social events. I am also the Social Media & Marketing Manager for Digital For Youth, an Enactus initiative that helps secondary school students enhance their digital skills. I am enthusiastic about this role and enjoy working with this innovative team.I recently completed an Erasmus in Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona. I achieved this position based on academic merit, a testament to my ambition and diligence. This was an invaluable experience as I learnt how to be independent and developed my cultural awareness greatly as I met a myriad of people from all over the world. I demonstrated my resilience in completing this Erasmus in the middle of a pandemic and against the backdrop of riotous movements in Catalonia.

In my spare time, I volunteer as a Street Outreach participant with the UCD St Vincent de Paul Society which has enhanced both my judgement and interpersonal skills. I would relish the opportunity to continue this kind of work in Byrne Wallace as they place a huge value on Corporate Social Responsibility. I am also a member of a tag rugby team. I enjoy the competitive nature of the sport and committing to a team. I recently started French classes again as I value the ability to speak and understand other languages, just as Byrne Wallace does as demonstrated in their Diverse Heritage week. Due to my progress, I now discuss news topics in class, demonstrating my self-motivation to continually learn. I am also a member of a book club which helps me to keep up-to-date with new literature. Listening to other people’s opinions and sharing my own has expanded my knowledge greatly.

My role as an administrative assistant in a professional medical consultant’s office advanced my commercial awareness through learning how to manage a fast-paced office efficiently, the key being to practically and promptly face business issues. In addition, the skills that I learnt from my interactions with the patients could be leveraged in my dealings with the firm’s clients. My role as a brand ambassador taught me how to be flexible and proactive, due to the nature of this shift work. This experience has prepared me well for a career in law as I had direct dealings with large clients with whom I built strong rapports with through consistently achieving results.

I believe that my passion for law and commercial drive, coupled with my eagerness to continue learning in a practical setting would make me an ideal candidate for a traineeship at Byrne Wallace.

I look forward to hearing from you and I thank you in advance for your time and consideration of my application.

Sincerely,

Samira Stafford Johnson [steffisj101@gmail.com](mailto:steffisj101@gmail.com), 086 3411 584