

Saoirse Kennedy Kelly
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Dublin 11

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ByrneWallace LLP
88 Harcourt Street
Dublin 2

RE: Trainee Solicitor Application

Dear Colleagues,

Please find enclosed my CV, together with completed application form for the position of Trainee Solicitor at ByrneWallace LLP.

I have been employed as a Paralegal in ByrneWallace LLP for over two years, working in the Employment Law department. During this time, I have had the opportunity to become familiar with and contribute meaningfully to the culture and ethos of the firm, through my active involvement with the Sports and Social Committee, and through my support of each of the team members in the Department. I have cultivated strong working relationships with colleagues both inside and outside of my direct team, and often receive praise and commendation from Senior Partners for my work and for my positive attitude. Aside from my day-to-day duties, I am also the HSE Legal Secretarial Champion for my team, as well as the Business Development Administrator. My time here has given me many opportunities to learn and grow alongside some leading experts in their field, especially in the context of our Tier 1 Employment team. I have worked consistently to ensure that I can continue to maintain and exceed the standard expected of me. I know that I will bring this commitment to excellence to any Department within ByrneWallace, and I look forward to the challenge of exploring the various and diverse range of practice areas that the firm boasts. I thrive in fast-paced environments and I have a proven ability to manage complex and varied caseloads with both precision and attention. As a committed team member, I enjoy collaborating and delivering high quality results. I believe ByrneWallace provides an environment where I can continue to grow and develop these skills.

I have been very fortunate to work alongside the various trainees who have worked within the Employment Department. I have fostered great relationships with many of the trainee solicitors, and have observed their development within our Department and throughout their traineeship. By observing their experiences I have understood the value of training in the right environment. With Byrne Wallace's reputation as a top-tier firm, alongside the calibre of lawyers who work in the firm and the supportive and collaborative setting, I believe ByrneWallace understands what aspiring solicitors require in order to reach their full potential.

Prior to my time in Byrne Wallace, I graduated from Dublin City University with a First Class Honours, Bachelor of Civil Law in 2021. As detailed in my application, I completed an internship in my third year with LK Shields Solicitors as a Paralegal, before completing my final year during the Covid-19 pandemic. My academic qualifications, coupled with the practical experience of my term in LK Shields, have provided me with a very strong basis on which to ground my legal career. I received a First Class Honours in each year of my undergraduate degree, and consistently ranked in the top 10 of my class throughout the duration of my studies.

Upon graduation, I successfully applied for the first ever Diversity and Inclusion programme in An Garda Síochána, where I was placed in the Garda Civil Litigation Department as an Executive Officer. My

responsibilities are detailed in my application. They included drafting legal advices for Garda divisions around the country, conducting research, liaising with external bodies such as the Chief State Solicitors Office and the Policing Authority, and leading a number of projects and presentations within the internship group. During this time, I was also nominated and selected by senior management within An Garda Síochána as one of four individuals in the internship programme to participate in the University of Limerick's Human Rights and Policing course, due to exceeding expectations. I completed this Level 8 module (6 ECTS) with a First Class Honours, whilst working full time.

I am currently undertaking the FE1 examinations, of which I have passed both Tort and EU law. I have recently completed the Contract law and Property law examinations in the October 2024 sitting, and I expect the results imminently. I am continuing to work full-time whilst completing these exams, and plan to sit my final exam in the October 2025 sitting, making me eligible for the September 2026 Training Programme.

I appreciate your time and consideration of this application, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Saoirse Kennedy Kelly