Maranatha, Esker Hill, Lucan, Co. Dublin.

12<sup>th</sup> February, 2018.

ByrneWallace, 88 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2, D02 DK18.

## Re: 2018 Summer Internship Programme: Application from Sarah O'Donnell

Dear Sir or Madam,

At present I am in the third year of study for a LLB in Law at Trinity College Dublin. I received an overall grade of 2:1 in both my first and second year and I am due to graduate in 2019. Prior to this I completed a Diploma in Legal Studies and Practice at Griffith College Dublin. I graduated in 2015 with a 2:1 Honours Diploma. I also hold a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English and Drama Studies from University College Dublin. I graduated in 2014 with a 2:1 Honours Degree. I am interested in gaining practical experience working in law in ByrneWallace. I would be grateful if you would consider my application for your Summer Internship Programme 2018.

ByrneWallace is a law firm which consistently demonstrates its progression and innovation. For example, data protection and privacy is an area of modern law which is currently crucially relevant. With the EU's General Data Protection Regulation coming into effect on 25th May this year and there being a consistent increase in data privacy related cases in the European Courts, this is undoubtedly an area which is in equal parts topical and fascinating. ByrneWallace are leading the way in this area having hosted a conference on the EU General Data Protection Regulation where a panel of industry and legal experts discussed the changing regulatory landscape and provided guidance to over one hundred CEOs, directors and business professionals who were in attendance, representing leading companies, financial institutions, and state and public-sector bodies. This is just one example of the intuition and innovation which illustrates ByrneWallace's ability to predict their clients' future needs and concerns and cater to them. This is what, I believe, undoubtedly makes ByrneWallace the ideal law firm in which to gain practical experience.

I am also drawn to ByrneWallace as it is a firm with such a wide range of expertise. This compliments the fact that at this point in my studies, my own interests are varied. The subjects I have studied to date, the subjects that I am excited to study in the future and my experiences both academic and professional, have contributed to my engagement with many areas of the law. As such, I would welcome the opportunity to experience working in any practice area within your firm.

While working in Ryans Solicitors I have had the enjoyment of gaining practical experience in many areas of the law. In particular, I have gained a great deal of experience in conveyancing and property law. To develop upon the skills that I have acquired, I would be interested in the challenge of experiencing how the area of real estate law functions in a larger context in the Property and Real Estate practice area in ByrneWallace. I have also developed a keen interest in litigation through my work at Ryans Solicitors. During my time there I worked on many litigation cases. My work on these cases involved drafting and preparing court documents, attending the courts and I also sat in on settlement negotiations. As such I would greatly value the opportunity of experiencing the Litigation and Dispute Resolution practice area of ByrneWallace. While I thoroughly enjoy my work in Ryans Solicitors I am eager to experience work in a larger firm so that my work experience can be as rich and well-rounded as possible. ByrneWallace's extensive list of awards and accolades is extremely impressive and illustrates that it is the optimal firm in which to gain this experience.

Through the years my interest in the law's application to business has grown. My experience working as Head Key Holder in The Body Shop furthered my interest in employment and commercial law. As I was frequently the sole supervisor of the store, it was my duty to handle employee, customer

and client complaints. This often required some knowledge of employment law, commercial law, contract law and consumer rights, as well as having an understanding and sensitive approach. When supervising the store, it was necessary for me to be conscious of health and safety requirements. My interactions with head office, as well as my experience working as a Promoter for Brantactics, allowed me to gain insight into other areas of business, such as product development, marketing and advertising. I would value the opportunity to apply these experiences to working in a progressive law firm such as ByrneWallace.

I have a keen interest in healthcare law and am looking forward to having the opportunity to study medical law and ethics next year. As such, the fact that ByrneWallace has a Health and Social Care practice area is of great appeal to me.

I am also impressed by ByrneWallace's commitment to corporate social responsibility. Every year ByrneWallace dedicates time to numerous charities such as Special Olympics Ireland, Our Lady's Hospice and Care Services and Harold's Cross and Blackrock Hospice to name a few. This exemplifies that BryneWallace is a firm which takes its values seriously and does not merely speak of them but is devoted to acting upon them.

I believe that my personality and experience to date shows that I am a driven, outgoing and dedicated individual. My English and Drama Degree allowed me to develop many skills. As well as the ability to produce academic writing and oral presentations, my degree involved extensive group work. The practical performance element in particular, required a significant foundation of trust. It was essential that each member of the performance worked well together and supported each other. My transition into law illustrates my ability to take on a challenge. While studying in Griffith College I was working full time in The Body Shop and I was required to balance these commitments effectively. After studying in Griffith College, I knew I truly desired a career in Law and since gaining a place in Trinity College I have enthusiastically applied myself to my studies.

I would be grateful if you would consider my application to join ByrneWallace for your Summer Internship Programme 2018. I hope to hear from you in due course.

Yours faithfully, Sarah O'Donnell.