

Seán Farrell Cover Letter

As a graduate of English, coming from the marketing sector, I've taken a circuitous route to enter the world of law. However, working to solve clients' strategic problems in small and large agencies, with clients ranging from global technology and drinks giants (IBM & Diageo), to large Irish semi-states (Bus Éireann), over three years in the advertising sector I've gained a strong strategic skillset, and indeed, the sharp nose for business nous that is mandatory in prospective solicitors today.

In addition, my professional background has equipped me with:

- A firmly international perspective, gained from working in London with one of the world's largest, and most respected companies, IBM.
- The ability to thrive within a corporate giant, and a firm understanding of the mechanics and processes that are necessary to achieve great work within such an organisation.
- A highly adaptable working nature.
- A strong ability to cultivate and maintain strong client relationships
- Cogent presentation skills and a polished professional approach.
- A keen sense of commercial acumen, honed from years of financial management of projects and margin growth.
- Comprehensive attention to detail.

Having been given the chance to work on some one-off work for Ashurst LLP in my time at Ogilvy, I found myself becoming more and more interested in the sector, with the intellectual challenges I encountered while working for Ashurst awakening a dormant interest I had always had in a career in the law.

I've followed this interest through to tangible action, enrolling in a preparatory course for my first four FE1's (Contract, Equity, Criminal and Property), sitting in Spring 2017. In addition, despite no legal experience, I progressed through to the final round of interviews for the Arthur Cox traineeship, and this additional exposure to the law has furthered my conviction that it is a career, and indeed a vocation, that I am extremely interested to explore. However, I am aware that it is absolutely vital to truly appreciate the intellectual challenges afforded by the legal sector through substantive work experience, and an internship with ByrneWallace is the perfect opportunity to achieve this.

It is predominantly for this intellectual challenge that a career as a solicitor appeals to me, and in particular, a career with ByrneWallace. With its reputation for forming solicitors who are highly intelligent problem solvers, and problem solvers with a distinct focus on the law itself, it's the perfect place for anyone in the embryonic phase of their law career, particularly the exposure afforded by the ByrneWallace internship programme.

As a solicitor I feel that I'll be perfectly positioned to:

- Provide substantive advice to clients – recommendations based on copious work and research, and enact real business change.
- Be in a firm that allows for constant development, professional and personal.
- Place myself among people who are equally intellectually curious.
- Achieve appropriate commercial reward for the level of work and dedication committed to my profession.

Throughout four years of study in Trinity College I consistently demonstrated my strong academic ability, graduating with a first class honours degree in English Studies. In my years of study there I was exposed to vast and complex texts, and expected to place them within their larger philosophical and historical context before expressing their meaning with precision and clarity, developing a theoretical and analytical framework not dissimilar to that developed by undergraduate students of the law.

University also allowed me to engage with people with vastly differing intellectual perspectives through my involvement with a number of different societies focused on the charity sector, predominantly Suas Trinity, and the Vincent De Paul society. I was also fortunate enough to be chosen to participate in Suas' volunteer programme in 2011, working with educational development charities in Calcutta for three months, and managed Suas' homework clubs, and Refugee Football programme in my final two years of study.

Ultimately, over 26 years, I've accrued a wealth of personal, professional and intellectual experience that's provided me with a unique professional perspective. When coupled with my strong academic ability, and my determination to succeed as a solicitor, I feel that the value I would derive from an internship with ByrneWallace, would be more than returned in full to you.