Fairyhouse Road

Ratoath

Co. Meath

Date: 6th February 2017.

**ByrneWallace**

88 Harcourt Street,

Dublin 2,

D02 DK18,

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a final year student at Dublin City University (DCU) and am writing to apply for the summer internship programme as advertised on your website on 6th February 2017.

Your firm is of particular interest to me because of its specialisation in Private Client Family Law and Child Care Law. I learned about your firm through my research on the work of Tulsa and your extensive involvement with them in terms of litigation. Interning at ByrneWallace would allow me to continue my commitment to Family Law, and I feel confident that I could contribute substantively to the work of your office while strengthening the skills I will need for a career in Family law.

As part of my Bachelor of Civil Law - Law and Society degree I undertook a Family Law module in which I had to complete a research project. The parameters of the research paper allowed students to cover a topic of their liking within Family Law. As I have a keen interest in gestational surrogacy I chose to do my research paper on it. The aim of my question was to investigate “Does Irish Law adequately protect the rights and interests of a gestational surrogate” and analyse the outcome with a comparative aspect to two other jurisdictions.

After completing the assignment I realised that this is an area which I have a great passion for and wish to continue researching and studying within the field of Family Law. As a result, I have applied for the LLM in Child and Family law in the University of Cork commencing in September, as it would allow me to specialise in Family Law and improve my knowledge and critical understanding of Child and Family law. I also believe I would benefit hugely by the extensive experience of the Child Care team during my internship.

I find Family Law fascinating due to its complexity and arguable a need for reform. I believe the internship would give me an insight into many different aspects of Family Law and offer me a practical engagement with leading practitioners in the firm. The intimate nature of Family Law appeals to me over the impersonal nature of Corporate Law.  My personal aim of the internship is to gain exposure to different sectors and to also make a more informed decision about my future career goals.

My hope is to continue studying Family Law and ultimately qualify for a position in the Children and Family Agency.

During my undergraduate degree, I have been employed in various part time positions. This has allowed me to develop my skills to a higher level. These skills include interpersonal skills, communication skills and those of a well-organised worker.

I would also like to take this opportunity to discuss my education results in terms of my Leaving Certificate. I believe they do not reflect accurately my ability as an individual. For personal reasons, I struggled with the objectives of the Irish secondary school system requiring the regurgitation of vast quantities of information. I believe I can analyse and comprehend information and I believe this is a more valuable skill.

I look forward to hearing from you with regard to my application. Please note that my summer examinations take place during the month of May.

Please find attached my Curriculum Vitae for your attention.

Yours sincerely,

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SHANE WOODS

086- 1968788