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**FAO**

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7Th February 2019

**RE: Summer Internship Programme 2019**

To whom it may concern,

I hope this correspondence finds you well. I am currently a student in the Sutherland School of Law at University College Dublin and I am writing to propose my candidacy for the Byrne Wallace Summer Internship Programme.

Byrne Wallace initially came to my attention as a pioneering firm of the legal sphere in the early stages of my undergraduate career. Most recently, I was afforded the opportunity to speak with individuals engaged in your esteemed traineeship programme at the UCD Internship Recruitment Fair. I was truly enamoured by the candid nature in which they spoke of the opportunities that have been afforded to them and the expectations required as a result, and it has solidified my desire to become a part of your team. Ultimately, I desire a legal career that will continue to stimulate me and push me to reach my full potential. In my opinion, the commercial world is one that exudes dynamicity and demands excellence. A working environment such as this would provide unparalleled challenges and opportunities for professional development. As winners of *Public Sector Legal Firm of the Year* for two consecutive years, it is clear that Byrne Wallace would provide an unrivalled experience. Furthermore, your firms Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives, most notably the your work with charities such as Breast Cancer Ireland and Irish Motor Neuron Disease Association displays integrity and values that I would deem to be critical for a fulfilling working environment.

My employment and educational experiences to date have instilled in me an insatiable desire to follow the professional path and ultimately qualify as a solicitor. Whilst this application is in respect of your Summer Internship Programme, I am applying in the hope that it would

culminate in the beginning of my legal career. I completed my undergraduate programme in May of 2017, and graduated with a second class honors Bachelor of Civil Law (International) from the National University of Ireland, Galway. My undergraduate programme ensured that I was exposed to a wide breadth of legal issues and subject areas. I truly believe a valuable legal education requires a balance between applied and theoretical learning, and I therefore made a conscious effort to partake in legal internships and volunteered in positions that involved the provision of legal advice to my peers. Upon completing the preliminary stages of my legal education, I made the decision to continue further and obtain an LLM degree in furtherance of my overall career objective. My decision to pursue a postgraduate degree in the area of commercial law was underpinned by my recent experience of working in Aviva Insurance, which acted as a catalyst for my introduction to the financial services sector and matters of a commercial nature.

I believe I have the skills and qualities that are necessary to excel in a fast-paced working environment, and to contribute meaning fully to your firm should I be successful in my application. As outlined above, I have been engaged in various forms of employment and internships during my time in third level. I would assert that my ability to maintain a strong academic record whilst engaged in other positions required diligence and effective time management on my part. I have extensive experience in the retail sector which has developed critical ‘soft skills’ that are essential across all platforms, including the ability to communicate effectively with those around me and work independently or as part of a group. I have completed internships of a legal nature and therefore have a basic understanding of the demands of the legal field and the degree of commitment required. Most notably, for a period of approximately 16 months I was simultaneously engaged in full time employment during week days and part time employment at the weekend. This endeavor was undertaken in pursuit of being in a sound financial position in order to apply for a Master’s programme to further my legal education. Whilst the experience was demanding I believe it is the best demonstration of my relentless work ethic and my ability to achieve my goals once I have committed to them.

I would like to thank you in advance for considering my application and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Sinéad Purcell