Siobhán O’ Donnell

                                        Irremore,

                                        Listowel,

                                        Co. Kerry

                                        +353 87 7845830

Head of Graduate Recruitment

Byrne Wallace

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I am a Masters student of European Law and the Irish Language, studying in University College Cork. I am writing to express my interest in securing a place in the Byrne Wallace Summer Internship Programme.

I am looking for a fast paced career that will challenge me, and I think securing the summer internship with Byrne Wallace, a prestigious law firm, will be a step in the right direction to realising this goal. I have always had a keen interest in current affairs; this can be seen from my engagement in journalism during my time in University. I want to work with the leaders in the market. As such, I know that I would enjoy working on the issues dealt with in a commercial law firm.

I believe I possess many of the skills that are suited to a career in a corporate law firm like Byrne Wallace. I have a record of excelling in performance both academically and in the work place. I received an MA on scholarship from UCC this year, illustrative of my high academic performance. In 2018, I was the winner of the UCC Business and Law Work Placement Award, on the nomination of my employer, in recognition of my outstanding work performance during placement. This award is testament to my work ethic and evidences my positive character traits that make me a passionate and goal orientated employee. The placement turned out to have a much more commercial role than I initially expected and it tested my business acumen, advocacy and problem solving skills.

Furthermore, I am extremely driven and motivated. I spent my third year in America working with The Thomas F. Meagher Association and the Montana Innocence Project. There was no requirement for me to complete a work placement abroad for my degree, but I felt that securing a work placement abroad would be something that would be of huge benefit to my personal development, and as such I liaised with the School of Law to make arrangements for this undertaking, illustrative of my own personal drive and ability to execute a vision.

I know that a legal career requires a high degree of teamwork and this is something to which I am no stranger. I play for the Irish Women’s Australian Rules football team. I am honoured to have represented my country at international level. This year our hard work was rewarded as we won the AFL European Championships 2018. I have been very involved with the UCC AFL club both as a captain and as a member of the committee. I held the position of Personal Relations Officer on the committee for two years. As PRO, I have acted as a point of contact for students wishing to get involved with the club, and worked to promote the club through social media. I have also had the opportunity to write for student publications and act in a number of plays during my studies. Consequently, I believe I possess very good written and oral communication skills, which I consider to be of paramount importance to a career in law.

Above all, I strive to act with integrity in every aspect of my life. This is a value that I hold in very high regard, and one that is necessary for anyone who wishes to succeed in a career in law. Further illustrations of the above skills can be seen in my curriculum vitae.

I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to gain experience in a corporate law firm in a work environment like Byrne Wallace, and feel confident that I could make a genuine contribution to the great work done there.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Siobhán O’Donnell