13th September 2021

**Cosgrave and Co. Solicitors**

**50 Mount Street,**

**Mullingar,**

**Co. Westmeath,**

RE: Byrne Wallace Traineeship.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a twenty year old student currently in my third year of studying Law in Trinity College Dublin.

I was heavily involved with Trinity’s Law Society Charities Committee during my first year. I had a significant role in the planning and carrying out of our charity boxing match, and, in our main event of Law Day in February in fundraising for WomensAid. I have gained excellent teamwork skills, organizational strategies, and innovation abilities during my time on the Charities Committee and I hope to further this, this upcoming year, especially through these unprecedented times. I prefer to work in team settings, so to develop this skill through a medium of a committee has prepared me to work on any team.

Furthermore, I fortunately became a Linklaters Making Links Scholar. This scholarship gave me access to one-to-one coaching, commercial awareness webinars, and a period of work experience. The training I have received so far has spurred on my legal ability and general confidence regarding my legal capabilities. It made me aware of what was to be expected of me in any firm as an intern and/or a trainee. Before the scholarship, I was definitely behind in regard to commercial awareness, but between the webinar sessions and different online resources, this has grown significantly. I thoroughly enjoyed my time on the program, and although it was difficult not to experience it fully by being over in their offices, I felt like it pushed me out of my comfort zone and urge me to further delve into more legal opportunities, which I may not have felt adequate for beforehand. Moreover, I had several presenting roles during my placement, albeit online, which pushed me even more out of my comfort zone, but showed me what it would truly be like if I was a trainee, or even an associate.

Also, as a TAP student, I believe that a firm like you would embrace and support my needs and worries regarding social mobility and diversity and inclusion. Being a TAP student has forced me to rely on hard work, dedication, and passion rather than other aspects that better socio-economic backgrounds experience.

During our many months in lockdown, I pursued a significant number of virtual internships via Forage. Although these internships were not screened for applications, I do believe that the skills I learnt from them was priceless. I learnt how to articulate, consolidate, and analyse documents that I would not have had the chance to do otherwise as I do not come from a legal background, and did not get the chance to gain legal experience due to the pandemic.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,

Sophie Cullen