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Byrne Wallace

88 Harcourt Street,

Dublin 2,

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Position: Byrne Wallace Trainee

Dear Sir/Madam,

It is with keen interest that I am applying for a position as a trainee solicitor in Byrne Wallace. While your firm’s prestigious reputation as a market leader is renowned, it is the lengthy discussions I have had with Byrne Wallace trainees that have convinced me I am not just a strong candidate but one with a unique blend of experience and academic fortitude that would ensure I add significant value to your already thriving firm. It is evident from winning awards such as the Chambers Europe Ireland Client Service Award in 2017 and the Law Firm of the Year award in 2016 that a client focus is deeply valued at Byrne Wallace. My experiences working with clients and customers in legal, commercial, and hospitality settings (both domestically & internationally) have given me a client-focused and results-driven mentality.

Invariably, I seek to exceed expectations by delivering exceptional results, which I have found to be the single best way of building a strong client/customer relationship. This adds value to the service I provide by building a rapport with clients. This, in turn, helps garner a lasting business relationship. Furthermore, I have found importance in, not only delivering expected results, but also endeavoring to achieve unexpected positive results. This then leads to a lasting impression and positive future relationship. To carry this out effectively, I employ a professional level of communication skills that I have developed in both legal and non-legal service roles. My approach and etiquette have recently been commended by senior members of Novartis including European and Global Heads. This has led to me being entrusted with managing negotiations between Novartis and legal teams in Canadian and Australian hospitals for a commercially significant and life-saving product currently in launch phase globally. When doing so, I am always acutely aware that my actions do not take place within a vacuum but may have wider implications for the client. Therefore, I constantly take external political and commercial factors into account. Having already gained this international negotiation experience, I posit that, along with my substantial client service and management skills, I demonstrate a unique set of capabilities for Byrne Wallace to draw from.

Nonetheless, it is not solely professional or academic qualifications which demonstrate my suitability but the leadership, adaptability and discipline derived from extra-curricular activities such as my lifelong participation in sport and, more recently, by travelling solo in Southeast Asia and India. Furthermore, in Vietnam, I taught English as a foreign language which has proven to be a significant character building experience that I draw upon daily. Teaching English to class sizes of over forty Vietnamese children is something I would have never thought conceivable until doing so. I submit that, in the workplace and otherwise, it is when stepping outside one’s comfort zone that maximum personal growth is achieved. As a relatively new employee of Novartis, I have found this to be invaluable as I work on multiple high-pressure projects simultaneously with international clients. This is especially useful when presenting progress reports and leading conference calls with key stakeholders and clients.

Additionally, I am confident that these skills can be drawn upon and developed to an even higher standard at Byrne Wallace, thus helping me achieve my ambition of becoming an expert legal professional with specialist industry knowledge. Due to my past experience in litigation-focused internships, I have been drawn to your firm as I am certain I can make beneficial contributions to your award winning litigation and dispute resolution team. I also have particular interest in your Life Sciences team due to my current role which has given me significant exposure to the pharmaceutical industry. Having studied international law at masters level, I was interested to read that ByrneWallace drafted a proposal on Life Sciences for the government regarding a possible increase in the amount of international legal dispute resolution work in Ireland in the wake of Brexit.

I look forward to combining legal and practical skills with a genuine understanding of clients’ business realities and needs. This could be achieved at Byrne Wallace more so than other top tier firms with learning and development being one of your core values and with a strong reputation as a full-service firm. I find it an attractive prospect that, while departments are segregated, they are not overly-specialised or niche which results in a broad educational experience and thus helping trainees become well-rounded legal professionals. On that note I would like to emphasise that applying to Byrne Wallace is not just about obtaining a training contract for me, but rather the aspiration of a long-term career with the firm that is repeatedly recognised as a market leader both in Ireland and with a growing reputation internationally.

Thank you for taking the time to review my application. You may find my contact details on the previous page. I look forward to hearing from you and discussing in more detail why I am a perfectly suited candidate for this position.

Yours Sincerely,

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***Stefan Nolan***