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ByrneWallace  
88 Harcourt St,  
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Dublin 2,  
D02 DK18

8 February 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,

I'm writing to express my interest in your summer internship programme at Byrne Wallace. I am in my second year at UCD studying English and Philosophy. After finishing my undergraduate degree I would like to continue studies and pursue a career in the legal profession. I met one of your trainee solicitors at a recent internship fair in UCD and she told me about your programme. I was very excited to hear about this opportunity and her positive attitude and enthusiasm for your company further encouraged me to apply. I believe an internship in Byrne Wallace will provide a perfect setting for me to further my experience in Law before pursuing a career in this sector.

I chose a general undergraduate degree as I wanted to broaden my knowledge before specialising in Law. Through studying English and Philosophy I have gained a lot of knowledge in a range of subjects such as Critical Theory, Moral Philosophy, Applied Ethics, Ethics and Politics. I have learned many new skills in writing, analysis and research. I am particularly drawn to Philosophy as it enables me to explore questions relating to ethics and moral philosophy. I've always been very passionate about human rights and equality, and these subjects have provoked discussions and helped me learn further about these matters which are fundamental to Law.

I shadowed two teams of barristers in the Four Courts and Criminal Courts when I was in transition year. I gained a great insight into what it would be like to work as part of the Irish legal system and I instantly found how I could match something I'm very passionate about - human rights and equality - with a profession. The experience was exceptionally eye opening and has had a lasting influence on me. I was taken by one of the barristers to the Smithwick Tribunal where I was able to witness the hearings. I shadowed a prosecution barrister involved in a high profile murder case. I was also taken to several very interesting minor cases and events around the courts. The barristers and their clerks whom I shadowed were very helpful in advising me and answering my questions about their legal profession. I found it really fascinating and it has inspired me ever since to become a lawyer. I would like to have as much involvement in society as I feel that a lawyer enjoys.

I think it's very important to be an active student and contribute to the social activities of the college. With this in mind, I have taken on the roles of Events Convenor for the French Society; peer mentor for twelve first year students; and an international 'buddy' for six International and Erasmus

students. I am a member of several societies and I regularly attend events and debates organised by them.

I attended Coláiste Íosagáin, an all-Irish speaking school in Booterstown. This gave me full fluency in Irish and encouraged my interest in communication and languages including French, Japanese and Italian. I continue my involvement with languages at college through my role on the French Society committee and my participation in the Cumann Gaelach. While I was in school I took part in the Mace debates at Trinity College and UCD, gaining public speaking skills and learning to talk about topical and relevant issues. I was also my class's delegate on the school's student committee in fifth year.

Through my time in college I have had part-time jobs in retail, marketing and sales. This work has taught me general professional skills and customer service and presentational skills, such as how to approach and deal with costumers in a professional and friendly manner. I am an out-going and enthusiastic person who works hard and enjoys working closely alongside other people while I am also very mature, responsible and independent.

An opportunity to gain experience with some of Ireland's top solicitors in Byrne Wallace would be both an honour and excellent experience for which I am very motivated and determined in doing. The broad scope of practices in your company and its renowned name are extremely attractive and, after talking with your trainee solicitor, it seems that it is a very welcoming place perfectly suited for gaining experience in. I would love to contribute to the work of Byrne Wallace. I am confident that I will bring something new and valuable to the firm and that I will learn a lot about pursuing my career in Law. I would be delighted to be considered for the 2017 Summer Internship Programme.

Yours Faithfully,

Stephanie Ní Oisín