14/10/2017

Sundas Khan

Byrne Wallace, 24 Hayfield,

88 Harcourt Street, Model Farm Road Dublin 2, Cork.

D02 DK18,

Ireland.

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Sundas Khan and I am a LLM candidate at King’s College London likely to graduate with a first class honours. I have also recently graduated from UCC with a BCL Clinical degree. As an ambitious student driven by commercial law, I am applying for a traineeship with your prestigious firm. I am fluent in French and Irish and have a wide range of work experience (Judicial Extern and Legal Clerk/intern). I am also a competitive debater and hockey player.

My desire to become a corporate solicitor is evidenced by my studies. Following my BCL Clinical degree, I have taken my LLM as an opportunity to specialise in international business litigation and corporate transactions. My lecturers are well-respected practitioners and under their supervision, I am developing excellent client advisory and analytical skills. I hope to carry these forward as a practicing lawyer.

Undoubtedly however, a particular milestone on my path towards a legal career was my clerkship in Larson O’Brien LLP (based in Los Angeles). I engaged in trial preparations for a heavily publicised civil trial in California against the Orange County District Attorney. Therefore, having acquired a lot of responsibility quickly, I found my work there interesting and intellectually challenging. In addition to this, I developed a fascination for litigation.

I further bridged the gap between study and practice during my clinical placement. I began my first internship in the Ronan Daly Jermyn’s Corporate and Commercial department. I worked at the same level as trainees, assisting solicitors with mergers agreements and processing loan sales projects. Such corporate transactions are comparable Byrne Wallace’s stimulating practice. The firm’s advice to Glanbia plc on its acquisition of subsidiaries from Kerry Group plc demonstrated excellent commercial awareness. While the firm’s consistent advice to foreign entities setting up funds in Ireland is most fascinating. I look forward to honing in on excellent commercial legal skills.

As part of my internship I also presented alongside junior solicitors and partners at the firm’s winter knowledge seminar. My presentation stemmed from research I undertook concerning jurisdiction clauses in contract law for a client. I approached the presentation from a new angle outlining these clauses’ overall impact in a professional manner and using a more engaging virtual format. I was commended for my mature and committed attitude to a legal career.

I underwent my second placement in Ernst & Young (EY) as a tax intern, and through this a more globally focused career path became appealing to me. My role entailed critical work to the organisation such as due diligence tax reporting. The highlight of my experience was being recruited to the Aircraft Leasing Team. I worked well under pressure with my colleagues to ensure compliance work and statutory account preparations for our client were processed. We were ultimately applauded for meeting the client’s tight deadline. I realised through this experience that law firm’s can compete within the realm of professional services.

Following on from my legal work experience, I realised that what I was doing was important, and projects I worked on could have far reaching implications. I found this notion incredibly motivating and it is something I would like for my career going forward. This is the primary reason I decided to apply to Byrne Wallace. Representing clients – be they a state authority, a multinational corporation or private clients, I know my work will be of wider significance.

In addition to this I understand that working within a team is essential for a trainee. This is something I have substantial previous experience of. I played on my university’s hockey team and was a novice rower. The experience of motivating one another to achieve results is, I believe, very similar to how firms work to acquire solutions.

Furthermore I understand the firm engages in a lot of Pro Bono work through their partnership with “*Solas Project”*. This is quite similar to work I underwent voluntarily as part of UCC Free Legal Advice Centre (FLAC) Society. As a member of the UCC FLAC Executive Committee, we assisted students in developing their negotiating skills and technical legal knowledge. Undoubtedly empowering young people was a very satisfying experience.

To conclude, I feel I am a highly suitable candidate. My commitment to academic learning, my previous work experience and my wide range of extracurricular activities confirm this. Therefore, I hope you will consider me for this position. I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Sundas A. Khan