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Human Resource Department

Byrne Wallace

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 5 February 2019

**Application for Summer Intern Programme 2019**

Dear Ms Onslow,

Please find enclosed my application for Byrne Wallace’s Summer Intern Programme 2019. I recently graduated from the University of Edinburgh and am undertaking the Graduate Diploma in Law at BPP, Bristol. I am moving to Ireland permanently in June hence my application to your firm.

It is through my varied legal experience and a growing personal interest in commercial issues that my drive to become a commercial lawyer has blossomed. Lawyers have the chance to be part of their client’s business success and the opportunity to work within a variety of sectors and markets. It is an interesting time to become a lawyer. Unchartered waters for clients arising from Brexit and new technology make it both an exciting and challenging opportunity for the legal profession. My drive comes from my belief that I have the interest, determination and skill-set necessary to pursue a successful career in law.

I followed this interest by securing an internship at Herbert Smith Freehills where I gained exposure to large construction clients and how their lawyers advised on the opening of a new hospital. I really enjoyed the work and am therefore attracted to Byrne Wallace’s full service where I can benefit from a significant variety of work before qualification. I have a particular interest in the healthcare sector and pursued this by writing my dissertation in it, for which I achieved a First Class mark. I was therefore interested to read about Byrne Wallace’s strong reputation in this area and am impressed by its Legal 500 Tier 1 rating. I was further impressed to read about the childcare team’s work with government departments such as TUSLA, a distinguishing factor from the firm’s commercial competitors. I became passionate about this area after taking a module in Children’s Rights, in which I also received a First Class mark. I want the chance to work in teams with such a strong enough reputation to provide input into legislation.

At university, I ran the UK’s largest student-led business competition, The Edinburgh Apprentice, where I developed my commercial awareness by working with sponsors such as HSBC, Sky and Enterprise Rent-A-Car to test candidates’ business acumen. Working on case studies with these companies, I became more aware of how businesses function and how they are affected by wider economic factors. Lawyers increasingly need to think of new ways to solve problems and to understand how to help clients succeed in their business. This is similar to the type of work I enjoyed as Project Manager. I wanted to differentiate the competition from previous years and modernised it by incorporating an element of technology, tasking candidates with designing a mobile application for the fitness industry. I was commended by a judge for hosting one of the most innovative competitions yet and was awarded “Creative Mind” at my committee AGM.

I want to combine that commercial awareness with my commitment to client care, by meeting their needs from the beginning to the end of a deal and thereafter. It is a commitment that I have built up through managing my own clients as a volunteer at the Personal Support Unit (where I offer advice to litigants in person) and I take pride when previous clients request my services. Byrne Wallace was the winner of the ‘Chambers Europe Ireland Client Service Award 2017', which is a testament to the high standard of service provided.

I therefore believe that Byrne Wallace would allow me to fulfil my career ambitions. Having met with representatives of the Firm who confirm a friendly and collegiate atmosphere, I would relish the opportunity to experience the Firm’s culture first hand through a summer internship. With this in mind, I attach herewith my curriculum vitae, which I hope will receive a favourable response.

I am available for interview at any time and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Tamara Turner-Distin