25 Deepdales,

Southern Cross Road,

Bray,

Co. Wicklow.

 1st February 2017

Byrne Wallace Solicitors,

88 Harcourt Street,

Dublin 2.

Re: Summer Internship Programme

Dear Sir/Madam,

 I am a third year law student studying at University College Dublin (currently studying abroad at the University of Texas at Austin) and I am writing to express interest in your summer internship programme.

 I have already sampled the work of both a corporate firm (Dillon Eustace) and a non-corporate firm (Gallagher Shatter), which has helped focus my career goals. Working as an intern at Gallagher Shatter Solicitors during the busy court months of June and July 2016 introduced me to the fast paced world of litigation, an area in which I would love to work. I am currently taking classes in International Human Rights Litigation and Mediation to learn about the wide range of ways in which lawyers settle disputes of a varied nature, both of which I find fascinating. The Child Care team of Byrne Wallace is another area of great interest to me. Having worked with Gallagher Shatter in representing Guardians ad litem in child care proceedings, I would be very interested in experiencing the behind-the-scenes of child care proceedings from the point of view of the advocates of TUSLA.

 In both of my previous summer internships, I have had interactions with Byrne Wallace. At Dillon Eustace, I engaged with secretaries from the Property Department to track down title documents for a client for whom we were carrying out due diligence. At Gallagher Shatter, I encountered Byrne Wallace solicitors who were advocating for TUSLA at the Family District Court in Child Care proceedings. In both of these experiences, the people from Byrne Wallace were extremely courteous and friendly. They were mindful of the fact that I was a student and were very helpful in explaining things to me which I did not understand. This is why I think Byrne Wallace would be a fantastic place in which to complete a summer internship; everyone I met was happy to impart some of their wisdom, even if just for a few brief minutes.

 I gained valuable skills working at my two previous intern experiences, from organisational skills, time-management, to interpersonal skills through working with colleagues and meeting with clients. I am used to the fast-paced nature of busy firms and find I work best under pressure. I have developed a competitive nature from my lifelong passion for running and athletics. While I may no longer compete in track and field competitions, my competitive streak still encourages me to participate in as many road races as I can, with only myself and my previous times to compete against. My desire to always improve myself is also present throughout my professional and academic work, which I would be prepared to incorporate into my work at Byrne Wallace. I have excellent teamwork skills, having worked with my school’s student council and also from my current work in the University of Texas School of Law Capital Punishment Clinic, where I am working with other law students, capital defence attorneys and social workers to get inmates off death row at the direct appeal, state habeas corpus and federal habeas corpus stages of litigation. This work has been hugely rewarding and engaging but has also greatly improved my research and writing skills, as well as my ability to interact with people from all walks of life, a skill which any good lawyer should have.

 I very much appreciate you taking the time to consider my application. As mentioned previously, I am currently in Austin, Texas so I will be available for Skype interview at your request. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours faithfully,

Tara Casey