Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Vanessa Frawley and I am a fourth year law student in Dublin City University. The law degree in DCU is technically only three years however I went on the year abroad last year and so my degree has become four years. I am seeking an exciting and challenging opportunity once I finish my degree and Byrne Wallace has stood out to me. The firm is recognised for protecting its client’s interests through the provision of expert legal services. Its Lexcel accreditation highlights the firm’s excellence in client care. The lawyers seem to take into account the big picture and ensure that they devote time into delivering the highest service levels to its clients. Understanding of the client’s business should be the primary focus of all firms, however this is not the case and so Byrne Wallace is particularly appealing to me.

It was through my internship at McKeever Rowan that I became certain I wanted to pursue a career as a lawyer. As a full-service law firm, I had the privilege of working in an array of practice areas such as litigation, conveyancing and property law, corporate law and family law. I particularly enjoyed the area of corporate law. I appreciate working closely with corporate clients in helping them achieve their business objectives. I am enthusiastic about the competition aspect of commerce and the continuous drive to achieve a competitive advantage in the marketplace. I am interested in the fact that the commercial environment is constantly changing and that the most successful clients are those who anticipate that change and adapt their business accordingly. Nevertheless, I am also drawn to Intellectual Property Law. I studied this module last year while on erasmus and I am currently writing my dissertation on the area. Byrne Wallace offers depth across many facets of law and this adds to the firm’s appeal for me.

One important differentiator that sets Byrne Wallace apart from its peers is the Corporate Social Responsibility policy. I feel particularly strongly about the volunteering aspect of the policy. I have a commitment to B.I.T.E which stands for Ballymun Initiative for Third Level Education. This involves DCU students tutoring secondary school students in a disadvantaged school. I have witnessed first-hand the difference such organisations make in shaping young peoples lives. The working placement positions from St. John of God’s, the Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association and the Christmas charities in place are all such worthwhile organisations. I really commend the firm for going beyond the norm expected of a leading Irish law firm and engaging in such activities.

In addition to voluntary work, I have always participated in extra curricular activities in school and in university. I have played Gaelic football for many years and have spent the past few years training younger teams. I continued to play throughout my erasmus in Scotland and my J1 this past summer in New York. As a coach, and a captain of my team in Scotland, I had a number of important responsibilities. Such a role demanded excellent communication, delegation and organisational skills as well as responsibility and accountability; all qualities that I feel are essential to a career in law.

I really appreciate being given the opportunity to apply for such a prestigious traineeship with Byrne Wallace and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Vanessa Frawley.