

Trainee Solicitor Programme,
88 Harcourt St,
Saint Kevin's,
Dublin 2,
D02 DK185
09/10/2023

Re: Application for Trainee Solicitor Programme

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a graduate of University College Dublin (“UCD”) with a BSc in Politics and International Relations with French. I have just commenced the Postgraduate Diploma in Law in Technological University Dublin (“TUD”) beginning September 2023 to facilitate becoming a Solicitor thereafter. Below, I have set out a brief summary of my background, skill set and attributes and motivations for wanting to join ByrneWallace LLP.

Building on my Political Science and International Relations background and my decision to attain a Postgraduate Law Diploma I am very passionate about pursuing a future legal career. I believe that the Trainee Solicitor Programme in ByrneWallace LLP is the perfect stepping-stone to effect this change. I would like to say that I am drawn to the world of law due to an innate desire to help people around the world through meaningful work. My undergraduate degree in Politics and International Relations helped me to understand the need for a democratic society while the legal profession is how I can apply it. Based on this desire, I have already sought out and gained significant exposure to the legal world having previously completed work experience in a law firm in Mullingar and then subsequently having been employed as a full-time receptionist in the same firm. I am willing and eager to learn and would like to gain further legal experience and knowledge at ByrneWallace.

Why I believe I am a good fit for ByrneWallace is because I thrive on challenges and seek a motivating environment for career growth. Therefore, ByrneWallace being a leading law firm with a global presence, offers the ideal environment for me to pursue this goal. I am very interested in ByrneWallace as it is ranked consistently high across the areas of banking and finance, employment law, corporate law and works with some of the most important and influential corporate clients. I have a great interest in current events and the issues that affect the working world around us which is what draws me to corporate law. In particular I am drawn to your firm due to its extensive work it undertakes in the public law sector as it has a large precedent in commercial law. I can see that you have advised many governmental boards including the Irish Civil Service post pandemic which is very interesting to me. Based on the values and culture of ByrneWallace, I believe that I am a suitable candidate for your company.

I value engagement and cooperation in all aspects of any discipline of life, which is why I worked hard throughout university to partake in extra-curricular clubs and societies. I was involved in many areas of student and professional life in UCD. In my penultimate year I was the Social Secretary, a coveted position, of the Literary and Historical Society (L&H), the oldest and most prestigious society in UCD. This experience enabled me to develop my organisational and teamwork skills through networking and

working closely with influential key players across Ireland and wider Europe. I have been on the committees of a number of other societies throughout my time in UCD, such as the social media officer for the Dance Societies 10th Session, external student rep role for Nitelife Ireland in 2019-2020, and even more diversely, a student ambassador for Hot Press magazine in 2020 and 2021.

With regard to other work experience I have had a number of part-time and full-time jobs throughout my studies and this has given me numerous skills and real-world experience. I am currently employed by House Dublin, a high-profile restaurant, bar and events venue in Dublin city. This has given me firsthand experience with the day-to-day running of a business and I am the first point of contact when dealing with customer queries and resolving any customer complaints has given me a wealth of interpersonal skills. I am a fluent French speaker and spent my third year in UCD on an Erasmus exchange in Belgium. As part of my studies in Belgium, I frequently visited EU institutions and lectures, as well as attending talks from EU and other European business officials. This added a whole new dimension to my degree and was a significant influence in my wish to enter the legal profession.

By way of information, I have always been touched by the law having a great grandfather, grandfather and currently my father all practicing solicitors. I was exposed to many legal conversations from an early age which I believe may have played a role in instilling in me an interest in the law.

Thank you for considering my application and I look forward to your reply with anticipation.

Yours faithfully,

Zoe Johnston

Email: zoe101johnston@gmail.com

Mobile: +353 834405756