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## INTERN AND TRAINEE RECRUITMENT PROGRAMME 2018

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**philiplee.ie**  
**info@philiplee.ie**

**DUBLIN**  
7/8 Wilton Terrace  
Dublin 2  
Ireland  
**T:** +353 (0)1 237 3700  
**F:** +353 (0)1 678 7794

**BRUSSELS**  
6 Schuman Roundabout, 2-4, 1040  
Brussels  
**T:** +32 2 403 37 48  
**F:** +32 (0) 2 648 2279

**SAN FRANCISCO**  
201 Spear St.  
Suite 1100  
San Francisco  
CA 94105  
**T:** +1 415 213 2836



*We take great pride in what we do, and how we do it.*



Dear future trainee,

Although no two law firms have exactly the same culture and outlook, differentiating between them can be a challenge.

How can you tell law firms apart, or whether a law firm offers the kind of culture and training environment that is right for you?

At Philip Lee, we have personality. And we respect yours. From our trainees to our partners, we place a premium not just on legal knowledge but on the ability to push, prod and provoke.

We have really talented lawyers, each among the best in their field. Our lawyers will keep you on your toes as you train and yet treat you as real team members.

Depth of experience and the innovative intelligence that creates not just insight, but foresight: these are the qualities we value in Philip Lee.

The firm's culture of curiosity is infectious and creates a unique learning environment where talent and personality can flourish.

I would be delighted to receive your application if you have:

- a sense of individuality
- a love of learning
- an excellent academic record
- commercial awareness
- strong writing and research skills
- an engaging and optimistic character
- interesting experience
- great listening skills
- an interest in the firm's areas of expertise

We hope to help your application process by keeping things simple. You will find all of the information you need in this booklet, and on our website [philiplee.ie](http://philiplee.ie).

Best of luck,

Philip Lee  
Managing Partner



This is a fantastic firm to work with; the lawyers have the knowledge and dedication of a large firm, with the approachability and reason of a boutique, specialist firm.



Philip Lee provides 'legal services of the highest quality'.

### Background

Philip Lee is a full service corporate law firm based in Dublin, Brussels and San Francisco. We are also part of Multilaw, one of the largest international law firm networks in the world. There is a strong international and EU law dimension to our work. The firm is ranked 'Top Tier' by International Law Firm Guides across a number of specialist practice areas and many of our lawyers are listed as 'leading individuals' in these areas, including:

- Construction, projects and PPP
- Data privacy and technology
- Dispute resolution and litigation
- Energy
- Environment and climate
- EU, competition and state aid
- Intellectual property and technology
- Media and entertainment
- Procurement
- Real estate and planning
- Tax

### International Offices

Philip Lee established an office in Brussels in 2006 and one

of our partners is based there full time, providing professional services to both Irish and international clients. A number of our trainees with a particular specialist interest in EU law have spent part of their traineeship working in Brussels. Philip Lee established an office in San Francisco in 2013 and one of our partners is based there full time, reflecting the firm's continued success securing foreign direct investment (FDI) clients locating their EMEA operations in Ireland.

### Education and Social Programmes

In addition to salary, trainees will have their Law Society PPCI and PPCII fees paid by the firm. The firm also provides support to staff engaging in further education and training relevant to their practice. Our social committee organises a wide range of sporting, entertainment, charitable and educational activities throughout the year.

### Corporate Social Responsibility

Sport is an area of interest firm wide; we recently published a fascinating report on the many legal and business aspects of sport. The Philip Lee Sport Report is available on [philiplee.ie](http://philiplee.ie). Philip Lee is one of a select number of corporate supporters of parkrun in Ireland. Parkrun is a community based international organisation that organises free weekly timed runs all over the world.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

If you are interested in an internship this summer or in our trainee programme, please email our HR Manager at [recruit@philiplee.ie](mailto:recruit@philiplee.ie). We are now recruiting for 2018. All applications close on the 31st January 2018.

Your application should include:

- Maximum 1-page cover letter (optional)
- Maximum 3-page CV
- An example of recent written work that you are particularly proud of

We only offer traineeships to the top two or three candidates each year, so take your time and prepare well.

We will short-list candidates for interview.

For queries relating to our trainee programme, please contact the HR Manager, Nicola McKenna, at [recruit@philiplee.ie](mailto:recruit@philiplee.ie) or 01 2373700.



**Michael Cahill**

**ASSOCIATE**

Before joining Philip Lee, I studied Law in University College Cork and spent some time working in small general practice firms in Cork.

While studying for my FE-1s, a friend mentioned an internship role in Philip Lee to me as she thought it would be exactly what I was interested in – she was right and from the minute I stepped through the door of Philip Lee I felt welcome and part of the firm.

From the outset as an intern I was given hands-on legal experience and responsibility which I had not expected. I was assisting senior associates and partners across a range of legal matters with direct exposure to interesting work and high profile clients. After a number of months as an intern, I was lucky enough to secure a training contract with the firm.

The traineeship offered at Philip Lee is very diverse and there are lots of opportunities for trainees to develop their legal skills and to pursue evolving areas of law that they may have a particular interest in. Within Philip Lee, trainees are expected to play an important role and senior lawyers within the firm, some of whom are leaders in their particular practice areas, take time to teach and impart their knowledge to trainees. All of these factors allow for development of rounded, knowledgeable and skilled trainees.

Since I started in Philip Lee in 2014, the firm has expanded rapidly in terms of staff numbers and it has also added a significant number of new practice areas.

That being said, a great feature of the firm is that it has retained its open, friendly culture and strong sense of community that exists amongst its staff. In my view, what sets Philip Lee apart is that as well as your work, the firm is interested in you as a person and in your personal development.

I found my time as an intern and trainee to be most enjoyable and cannot recommend the Philip Lee traineeship program highly enough.

**Michael Cahill**



**Shaunagh Byrne**

**TRAINEE SOLICITOR**

Prior to joining Philip Lee in February 2015, I completed a law degree in DCU and gained some valuable work experience in a large commercial firm and some smaller general practice firms. During my final year in DCU, I attended the DCU Law Fair where representatives of Philip Lee were in attendance. This gave me an opportunity to speak to those working in Philip Lee, including some of the trainees. Although I was aware of the wonderful reputation Philip Lee had, meeting some of the trainees convinced me that Philip Lee would suit my interests and personality well.

Some months after completing my degree while I was sitting my FE-1s, I applied for the full-time internship position in Philip Lee. After two rounds of interviews, I was delighted to be offered a position with the firm. From the outset, I was given very interesting and challenging work.

This allowed me to put the skills I had developed during my law degree to good use. To my surprise, I was given a lot of responsibility from the outset dealing with high profile clients and matters, attending client meetings and undertaking complex research tasks. After six months working as an intern, I was lucky enough to secure a training contract with the firm.

Philip Lee values the work that interns and trainees undertake. They are an integral part of the Philip Lee team and this is reflected in the quality of work that trainees are tasked with. In addition to this, Philip Lee are a firm that understands the importance of developing well-rounded trainees and are very supportive of other opportunities that often arise for trainees.

The firm is expanding rapidly but has managed to maintain a friendly, supportive culture in which everyone's contribution is valued. From my experience, Philip Lee is unique in this regard.

I would highly recommend Philip Lee to any law student looking to qualify as a solicitor. The diversity of practice areas, from commercial law to immigration law, means that there is something for everyone!

**Shaunagh Byrne**