

Barbara L. Jackman, LL.D.

Barbara L. Jackman is presently in private practice, and specializes in areas of immigration and refugee law. She has earned the reputation of being one of Canada's most effective advocates for refugee rights and throughout her career, she has shown a commitment to the highest ideals of the legal profession,

Called to the Bar of Ontario in 1978, Ms. Jackman received her LL.B. from the University of Toronto in 1976.

She has been an instructor in the Bar Admission Program, as well as a lecturer at the Faculties of Law at Queen's University, the University of Toronto and at Osgoode Hall Law School. She has also been a lecturer for continuing education seminars at the Canadian Bar Association and the Law Society of Upper Canada, on immigration law and practice, Federal Court practice, national security legal issues, domestic and international human rights, and practice before International Human Rights Tribunals.

Ms. Jackman has also been counsel for the party or an intervener for a number of important cases, including two that concerned the right of the defendant not to be returned to torture.

Her community involvement includes having served as a director of organizations such as the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, the Working Women Community Centre, INTERCEDE, and Defence for Children International.

Her many international human rights activities include being a delegate to the Trans-Atlantic Legal Exchange on Refugee Law from 1986-7, and the Northern Ireland Peace Process Fact-Finding Mission in 1995. She also served as a representative for the Canadian Council of Churches, and monitored Canada's presentation to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child in 1995 and its presentations to the Human Rights Committee in 1990 and 1999.

As a member and leader of various associations, she has received a number of significant awards, including: York University's (Centre for Refugee Studies) Vince Kelly Award (1993); the Canadian Arab Federation's Arab Canadian National Award (1995); the Federation of Associations of Canadian Tamils (1998); the Advocates' Society Award of Justice (2000); the Sikh Centennial Foundation's Award of Excellence (2002); the Law Society Medal (2003); the Tamil Women Organization Award (2005); and the Arab Community Centre of Toronto – Community Service Award (2005).

Ms. Jackman is also the author of various papers and articles and a contributor to four books.

For her dedication to public service and her tireless work as a mentor, lecturer and leader and member of numerous community associations, Ms. Jackman was awarded the Doctor of Law (honoris causa) degree by the Law Society of Upper Canada in 2007.