

Bio: Mark Handelman



Mark Handelman B.A., LL.B., MHSc (bioethics)
EthicScan Associate, Bioethics

Specialty	Health Care Ethics Assurance	Complaint Investigation	Organizational Ethics	Partnering and Procurement
Major			X	
Minor	X	X		X

Mark Handelman was called to the Ontario Bar in 1978. Until 2001, he practised law in London, Ontario, including civil litigation, criminal defence and prosecution. He was one of Ontario's first members of the Official Guardian Child Representation Program. Mark was appointed to the Consent & Capacity Board in 1998 and became a Vice Chair and Senior Lawyer Member in 2000. He became Acting Toronto Regional Vice Chair and then Regional Vice Chair in 2001, for which he stopped practising law and moved to Toronto. He was the Board's only Vice Chair for quality assurance and presided at about 2000 Board Hearings—including the majority of the Board's "end of life" cases. Mark's term on the Board expired in 2008 and he is now in the private practice of health care law, representing health practitioners, SDMs and patients and advising and teaching health care providers. He also prepares wills and Powers of Attorney, particularly for persons with limited capacity, and is frequently retained by other lawyers to assist their clients with these important documents. He is Counsel to the law firm Whaley Estate Litigation, advising on guardianship and estate litigation matters and is a Lawyer Member of the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal, where he mediates and adjudicates Human rights complaints.

Mark holds an MHSc in bioethics from the University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics. He was a member of the corporate ethics committees of both William Osler and Humber River Hospitals and wrote the first versions of the information brochure, “A Guide to Substitute Decision-Making” for both hospitals. His articles on powers of attorney, mental health law and ethics, substitute decision-making and the end of life process have been published in various journals.

In London, Mark was twice a candidate for public office. He also wrote over 300 restaurant reviews and food articles for The London Free Press, as well as an internet wine review column. Mark still occasionally tastes wine, but now only for medicinal purposes.

Institution	Role	Date
University of Toronto	MHSc (bioethics)	2005
University of Windsor	LLb	1976
University of Western Ontario	BA	1972