



The Maryland State Medical Society

News: For Immediate Release

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IN CELEBRATION OF MEDCHI'S 178TH PRESIDENT ERIC WARGOTZ, M.D., FCAP:
A GALA WILL BE HELD ON MARCH 28, 2026, AT THE SUNSET BALLROOM OF
CHESAPEAKE BAY BEACH CLUB, STEVENSVILLE MARYLAND

BALTIMORE, March 10, 2026 — Eric Wargotz, M.D., FCAP, the newly inaugurated 178th President of MedChi, is a man of many accomplishments who wears many hats: physician, judge, and seasoned C-suite executive whose work spans medicine, law, business, and the performing arts.

As a pathologist from Queen Anne's County, Dr. Wargotz is widely recognized for his expertise with distinction for seminal research in diseases of the breast and the gynecologic system; his research is highly cited in medical literature. He is a member of the prestigious Arthur Purdy Stout Society of Surgical Pathologists, a Life Fellow of the College of American Pathologists (CAP), and a Life Member of the American Medical Association (AMA). He has served on the editorial board of the "American Journal of Clinical Pathology" and "Human Pathology" and was vice-chair of the Intersociety Council for Pathology Information (ICPI). Dr. Wargotz is the recipient of Patient Choice, Compassionate Doctor, On-Time Physician, and America's Top Physician awards and has been included in the following compendiums: American Men and Women of Science; 2000 Notable American Men; Who's Who Among Rising Young Americans; Who's Who in the East; America's Most Honored Professionals.

He serves as Senior Staff Pathologist at Luminis Health Doctors Community Medical Center (Lanham, MD). Dr. Wargotz was awarded emeritus status as Clinical Professor Emeritus of Pathology at George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS). At GWU and the SMHS he has served on the Fiscal Planning & Budgeting Committee, University & Urban Affairs Committee, and the Professional Ethics & Academic Freedom Committee. He served nearly twenty years on the Medical School Admissions Committee.

Equally impressive is his extensive record of leadership. Dr. Wargotz served as Medical Director and Chief of Pathology at Luminis Health Doctors Community Medical Center for twenty years as well as other leadership positions there. He served as President of the Queen Anne's County Medical Society for five years and his membership in MedChi spans 35 years. At MedChi, his past service includes Board of Trustees Member, Chair of the Joint Continuing Education Committee, and Chair of the Operations Council.

As a dedicated public servant, Dr. Wargotz continues to serve on the bench as Judge of the Orphans' Court for Queen Anne's County since 2014 and was appointed by Governor Larry Hogan to chair the Task Force to Study the Maryland Orphans' Court (2021). He was the Elected President and countywide (at-large) member of the Queen Anne's County Board of County Commissioners (2006–2010), with leadership roles on the Board of Health, Planning

Commission, Teen Drug Task Force, Regional Mental Health Advisory Committee, the Fire and Emergency Services Commission, Bay Bridge Airport Commission, and Sheriff's Office. Regionally, he chaired the Upper Shore Regional Council (2007) and served on the Maryland Rural Broadband Coordination Board and the Rural Maryland Council. Dr. Wargotz is a former member of the Maryland Board of Quality Assurance and is an Honorary Fellow of the Federation of State Medical Boards. His active involvement in community health initiatives has been recognized by local and state government through legislative resolutions and certificates citing his contributions to public health. During his term as commissioner, Dr. Wargotz was instrumental in bringing to fruition with his fellow commissioners (especially Commissioner Gene Ransom) the establishment of the first free-standing emergency facility, the dedication of an urgent care center, and coordinating volunteer and county emergency medical services into a model "hybrid system", all of which resulted in improved health care access and delivery in Queen Anne's County.

What you may not know is Dr. Wargotz has been an actor for many years. As a teen in high school, he appeared in over 30 stage productions, all on stages in the Jersey shore, and often in lead roles. Among the more notable plays were "The Mousetrap," "Night Must Fall," "Present Laughter," and "The Odd Couple." Dr. Wargotz left the stage for college, however, of note is that between college and applying to medical school he spent several months living on the streets of New York as a street performer and auditioning. He did not revisit acting until later while a resident where he enrolled in a class called "Acting for a Camera." Dr. Wargotz shared with us "I spent most of my vacation and free time auditioning, taking acting classes, and being on set in film and television shoots until 1999 when I could no longer work it into my increasingly demanding career. Midway into my residency, I hit a crossroad when I was offered a role in a soap opera in New York from Joan D'Innecio (the soap opera Queen-of-Casting, R.I.P.) but turned it down to continue my training in anatomical and clinical pathology." He has been an active member of SAG-AFTRA, the actor's union since 1994 and has served on the "Actors Award Committee" (formerly SAG Awards Committee) and the "Short Film Showcase Committee." Dr. Wargotz can be seen in films (most often as a background actor) in *The Pelican Brief*, *For Richer or Poorer*, *Contact*, and *G.I. Jane*, to name a few. He has also appeared in multiple episodes of the TV series *Homicide: Life on the Street*. More recently, Dr. Wargotz and his wife, Cheryl-Ann, worked as background actors in the Netflix thriller *The Night Agent*. He says cheerfully that he has also tried his hand at film production (*Twilight of the Dogs*) and scriptwriting/screenwriting ("*MedMal*" pilot) without takers to date.

Dr. Wargotz attributes his robust work ethic to his first-generation upbringing. From his parents, Bernard and Rosalie, he learned the values of perseverance, resilience, and resourcefulness. This foundation took root early as by age eight, he was selling seeds and greeting cards door-to-door and performing neighborhood chores. His industriousness continued through various trades and service roles into his college years, where his academic interests in science, history, and philosophy began to flourish. He has been guided by a principle attributed to Aristotle, "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." This influence is seen in Dr. Wargotz's application of his "three sights": the wisdom of hindsight, the vision of foresight, and the power of insight, to his work as a teacher and mentor.

Born in Akron, Ohio, Dr. Wargotz earned his B.S. in Biological Sciences from Rutgers University. He earned his M.D. from The Ohio State University College of Medicine where

he received a scholarship award: the David and Mary Fay Scholarship. He completed residency training in pathology at George Washington University Medical Center and the VA Medical Center in Washington, D.C., where he served as Chief Resident. His excellence in teaching was recognized with the Frank N. Miller, M.D. Award for Excellence in Medical Student Teaching at George Washington University. Following residency, Dr. Wargotz was awarded the Callender-Binford Fellowship of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology to pursue research in Breast and Gynecological Pathology. Dr. Wargotz briefly attended the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law (1995) and left in good standing to focus on his expanding practice.

His most prized role is as husband and father which he says he stills “works at perfecting every day.” In his free time Dr. Wargotz treasures spending time with his wife Cheryl-Ann Lee-Llacer Wargotz (an economist and retired home school teacher) and their children Jacob (mobile technology specialist), Samuel (compliance coordinator and OEM buyer), Leila (law student); cheering on local sports teams; discussing politics; reading ancient history (Egyptology); learning to play the guitar; and squeezing in acting jobs.

About MedChi

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is a non-profit membership association of Maryland physicians. It is the largest physician organization in Maryland. The mission of MedChi is to serve as Maryland's foremost advocate and resource for physicians, their patients and the public health of Maryland. For more information, please visit www.medchi.org.