

## **Brief Bio - 2023**

### **Ernie Ward, DVM, CVFT**

DrErnieWard.com

Dr. Ernie Ward is an award-winning veterinarian, internationally known speaker, impact entrepreneur, author of several books, columnist, and media personality. A 1992 graduate of the University of Georgia, he was voted Speaker of the Year at both VMX and WVC conferences, the 2018 Veterinary Journalist of the Year, received the US National Practice of Excellence Award, and has received many veterinary and civic recognitions.

He currently serves as Veterinary Medical Lead for Basepaws by Zoetis, a pet genetics company he has served since 2018, as Chief Veterinary Officer for VerticalVet, a group purchasing organization he co-founded in 2018 representing over 1,600 veterinary clinics in the US, and as Founder and President of the Association for Pet Obesity Prevention.

He also sits on Boards of many animal organizations, including the Morris Animal Foundation's Scientific Advisory Board and Animal Welfare Advisory Board, Grey Muzzle Society, and the Southern European Veterinary Conference's Scientific Committee and Practice Management Chairperson, to name a few.

When he's not with family or pet patients, he can be found contemplating solutions for both the veterinary profession and the planet during endurance athletics, meditation, and on his award-winning weekly podcast, the Veterinary Viewfinder, or his regular column, "Opening Shots," in NAVC's "Today's Veterinary Business."