



DR. RICHARD J. WASSERMANN

OPERATING ROOM STYLE Intense and focused **WHY DID YOU BECOME A PLASTIC SURGEON** I found it to be the most challenging area of medicine. My work is there for everyone to see **BEST ADVICE YOU'VE RECEIVED** If you take care of the your patients' well-being, then your practice will take care of itself **HEALTH AND BEAUTY TIP** Find a skin-care regimen you can stick to **ALTERNATIVE OCCUPATION** Architect **HOBBIES** Golf **PLACE YOU GO TO ESCAPE THE OFFICE** The golf course or the beach **FRAMED PHOTOS ON YOUR DESK** My family—my wife and three girls, ages 4 to 11 **I START EACH DAY** Thinking about the surgeries ahead **I AM NEVER WITHOUT** My skin marker

TUMMY-TIGHTENING TECHNIQUES

Abdominoplasty, otherwise known as a “tummy tuck,” is a popular technique for tightening the soft tissues of the abdomen and is often requested after pregnancy, successful gastric bypass surgery or massive weight loss by calorie restriction and exercise. Dr. Wassermann has performed hundreds of standard **ABDOMINOPLASTIES**, but for those patients that require it, he performs a **TORSOPLASTY**, contouring the entire soft tissue envelope (front and back) of the trunk and pelvis. “The changes associated with weight loss, and a reduction in body mass index (BMI), involve not only the abdomen, but also the adjoining anatomic areas of the **HIPS, BUTTOCKS, THIGHS, LOWER BACK AND PELVIS**. “You have to envision the entire circumference of the patient, 360 degrees.” Dr. Wassermann contends that although this type of comprehensive operative approach is challenging, his satisfaction comes from creating not just a normal anatomy, but one that is aesthetically pleasing for his patients to enjoy.

exceptional care

Dr. Richard J. Wassermann's appreciation for classic structure, fine lines and ageless beauty extends beyond the human form. In fact, he has recently performed a facelift on a very different scale—renovating a 1939 Greyhound Bus Depot. This Art Deco building, listed on the National Historic Register, is now “home” to his growing practice.

Patients who come to his private AAAHC-accredited office-based surgery facility can expect to receive total continuity in care, from the initial consultation through post-operative care and beyond. “Our skilled clinical staff is dedicated to providing personal care and the highest level of patient satisfaction,” says Dr. Wassermann. With an emphasis on aesthetics, Dr. Wassermann heads up a plastic surgery practice encompassing all aspects of the specialty. His core subspecializations include breast surgery, body contouring and facial rejuvenation. “To me, plastic surgery is the most demanding area of medicine. Our specialty requires an approach to the whole individual whereby the incisions planned and the anatomy manipulated improve not only the patients' physiology, but also their appearance, health and well-being.” A former associate professor at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine, Dr. Wassermann found the transition to private practice very natural. He takes his role as a patient educator seriously, communicating exactly what can be accomplished. He jokes about using his patients as marker boards to demonstrate how the surgery will be done. “I think, talk and draw at the same time.” The plastic surgeon's staff is trained to be detail-oriented and accessible. “My patients always get a live voice on the phone.” Dr. Wassermann uses a unique approach with each patient. “I am very precise in my preoperative analysis and decision making.” There is often more than one way to perform a procedure. I have to be facile at all techniques for the benefit of my patients.”

BOARD CERTIFICATION

American Board of Plastic Surgery

MEDICAL DEGREE

Tulane University School of Medicine

GENERAL SURGERY RESIDENCY

University of Chicago

PLASTIC SURGERY RESIDENCY

University of South Florida

AFFILIATIONS

Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care

American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery

American Society of Plastic Surgeons

Fellow, American College of Surgeons

Plastic Surgery Research Council

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Abdominoplasty

Aesthetic Injectables

Body Contouring

Breast Augmentation

Facelift

LOCATION

Columbia, South Carolina

803.779.1200

WEB SITE

www.plasticsurgerysouthcarolina.org

“I would describe myself
as an analytical and
compassionate surgeon.”

—RICHARD J. WASSERMANN, MD, MPH, FACS