

Brenna Woodley Quoted by Corporate Counsel Now

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Kelley Drye Special Counsel [Brenna Woodley](#) was quoted in the article, “Commanding the Room: An Executive Presence Playbook for In-house Counsel,” published by the Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC).

The article discusses how executive presence for in-house counsel is less about charisma and more about repeatable behaviors: how you show up in moments of pressure, how you communicate risk, how you read stakeholders, and how you sustain yourself in a demanding role.

Brenna offered an outside-counsel perspective on what distinguishes effective in-house leaders in sensitive situations. Among other points, Brenna noted how women often “undersell, ... or wait for permission to speak.” Effective leaders don’t. “They know they’re in that room for a reason,” and they hold onto that even in difficult moments.

Brenna also cautioned against equating fast advice with strategic leadership. In high-pressure situations, “a strategic response is better than a fast one,” and confident in-house counsel pause to evaluate information to provide strong strategic advice.

Overall, presence requires both situational awareness and the confidence to contribute early and thoughtfully.

Read the full article [here](#).