

# Getting to Know Our National Conference Speakers: Genna Garver and Hope Brown

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By Shachi Bhatt



**About the Author:**

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*I sat down with Genna Garver and Hope Brown, two speakers for the upcoming NSCP National Conference in October, for their insights on professional development, and some personal favorites.*



Genna Garver is a partner at Troutman Pepper with more than 20 years of professional experience.

**First, Genna, can you tell us about your session at the National Conference, *7c. Expanding the Table: Advancing Women in Compliance*?**

**Genna Garver:** I'm really looking forward to the interactive discussion we have planned for our session. It's an honor for me to join Medina and Shachi, both of whom are amazing women with powerful personal stories that will lead our discussion topics. We will be focusing on the importance of rising together and how we can all be better allies to each other—not just women supporting women, but men supporting us too. Not only is this an important topic for women in compliance, but also for all of our diverse colleagues. We also intend to cover a few highlights from an upcoming September event Troutman Pepper is hosting with NSCP and a few other co-sponsors, Men as Allies.

**What is the best book you've read in the last year?**

**Genna:** I'm obsessed with historical fiction, especially anything by Alice Hoffman, but I just finished *The Murmur of Bess* and *Red Letter Days*. I'm halfway through *Cartier's Hope* and just bought *White Fragility*.

**What is the best piece of professional advice you have ever received?**

**Genna:** Be responsive and don't [mess] up.

**What is one important skill you think everyone should have?**

**Genna:** Empathy.

**If you could visit anywhere in the world you've never been, where would you go?**

**Genna:** Patagonia is definitely my next dream destination.

**What's the most important leadership lesson you've learned and how is it valuable?**

**Genna:** The art of actively listening. My dad always said to me no one has ever learned anything by talking.

**Best sandwich ever. What's on it?**

**Genna:** Toasted bread from our local bakery, fig spread, Meredith goat cheese, avocado, thinly sliced turkey, tomato and red butter lettuce. A family favorite!

**What is a slogan, motto, or quote that describes you or your values?**

**Genna:** I do try to live by the Four Agreements (a book by Don Miguel Ruiz): 1. be impeccable with your word; 2. don't take anything personally; 3. don't make assumptions; and 4. always do your best. The first one in particular—integrity is everything.

**Finally, what is the best part of NSCP?**

**Genna:** Comradery. Compliance can be intense. We support each other, we rise together.



Hope Brown is the Vice President, Chief Compliance Officer at Calvert Research and Management with more than 20 years of professional experience.

**First, Hope, can you tell us about your session at the National Conference, 3d. ALL – Diversity & Inclusion Considerations for Compliance?**

**Hope Brown:** Join us for an interactive discussion regarding diversity, inclusion, belonging and equity, why they matter and how the past six months-both the public health crisis and recent events related to systemic racism- have made the business imperative even stronger.

**Briefly describe your education and career path. How did you end up in Compliance?**

**Hope:** Shortly after I graduated from college, I was reading The Washington Post and I noted a firm seeking a Policies and Procedures Specialist. I did not know what a broker-dealer was at the time, but I knew I loved to write and decided to apply. The rest is history. This role ended up being the launch of my career in compliance.

**There are now 25 hours in a day! How do you spend your extra hour?**

**Hope:** Sitting outside and reading a good book.

**What are three positive words that people often use to describe you?**

**Hope:** Hardworking, energetic, hopeful.

**If you could visit anywhere in the world you've never been, where would you go?**

**Hope:** South Africa.

**What's the most important leadership lesson you've learned and how is it valuable?**

**Hope:** One of the most important lessons I have learned is to be my authentic self. This lesson has been the governing principle of my life, especially over the last 10 years. Being my authentic self has allowed me the freedom to make decisions that are best for me (for example, choosing a company not based solely on the position, but also asking myself is this a company in which I can thrive); build genuine relationships with colleagues and employees and set boundaries.

**If you could have any super power, what would it be?**

**Hope:** I would love the ability to read minds.

**What do you wish you had known before taking your first compliance role?**

**Hope:** I wish I had known the importance of building relationships and networking earlier in my career. I think building sustainable relationships is critical for any successful role.

**What is the best piece of professional advice you have ever received?**

**Hope:** One of the best pieces of advice I have ever received is that I am the CEO of my own life - hire, fire, and promote accordingly.

**Who's someone you really admire?**

**Hope:** Aside from my family, I admire everyone who is speaking up and speaking out as we continue to fight for diversity, inclusion, and equity.

**Finally, what is the best part of NSCP?**

**Hope:** The best part of NSCP is the amazing group of people I have been working with, particularly over the past three years, and the opportunity to advance and evolve the compliance profession.