

A portrait of Judd Shaw, a man with short brown hair and a light beard, smiling broadly. He is wearing a dark blue blazer over a white button-down shirt, which is open at the collar. He also wears a black necklace with three small, round, light-colored beads. His right hand is raised in a gesture, with the index finger pointing forward. The background is a plain, light gray.

Media Kit

Judd Shaw

Keynote Speaker • Author • Active CEO

This isn't theory. It's measured.

Judd Shaw has built and led one of New Jersey's most successful law firms for more than two decades. He still runs it.

The Brave Space started there. He changed how he showed up as a leader, brought that shift to his team, and measured what happened over the following two years through anonymous employee surveys:

53%

increase in employees feeling trusted to decide how they do their work

40%

increase in employees feeling heard, with their ideas considered and implemented

35%

increase in perceptions of integrity, teamwork, and collaboration

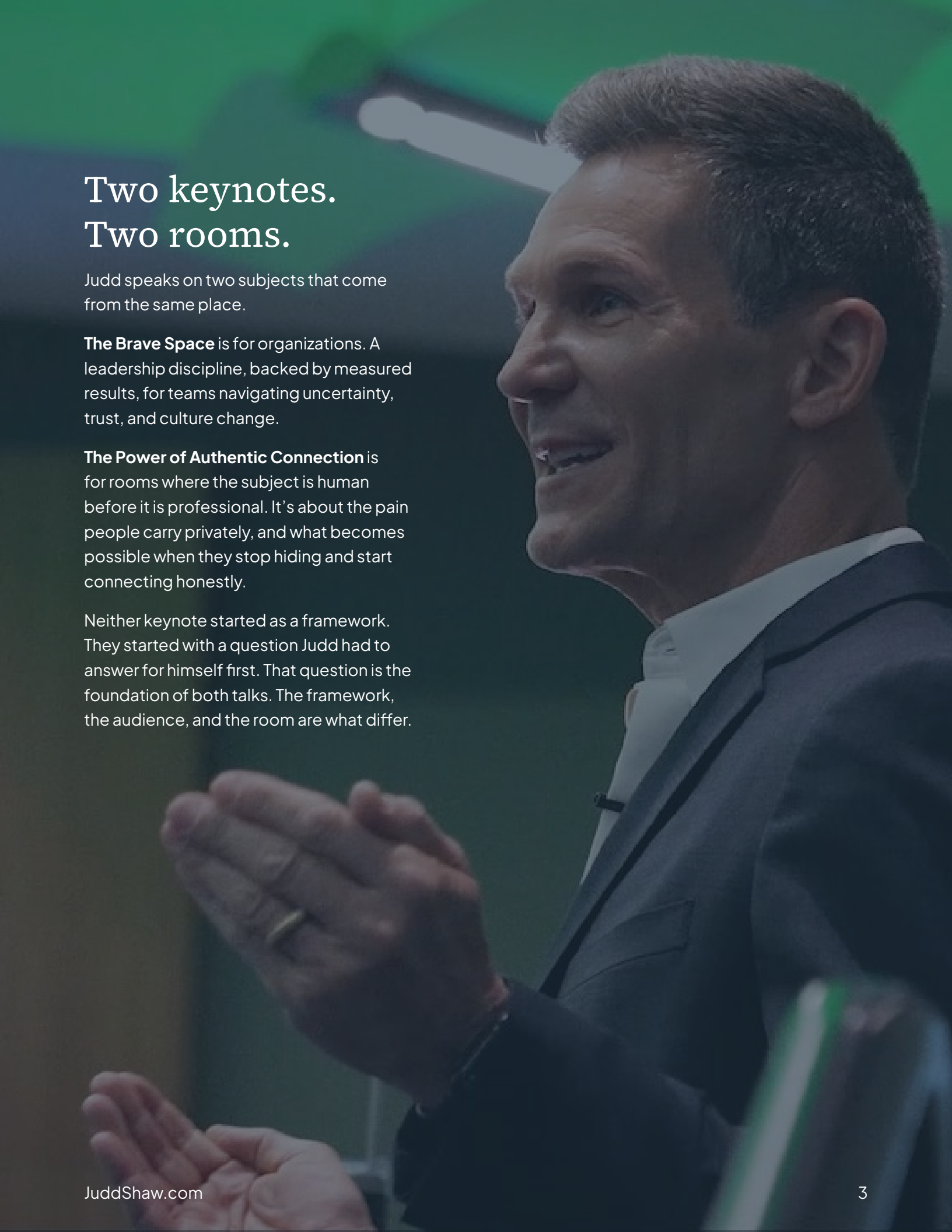
54%

increase in employees saying processes work efficiently

These are not culture program metrics. They are signals of something structural: greater trust, clearer expectations, shared responsibility. The conditions that change how people collaborate, make decisions, and stay.

Most speakers working on leadership draw from research, other organizations' case studies, or experience that predates their speaking career. Judd is still accountable to the organization where this work was tested. The before and after is documented. The firm is still thriving.

[Read the full story and watch the team testimonial](#)

A man with short, light brown hair, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored shirt, is shown from the chest up. He is looking slightly to his left and smiling, with his hands raised in a gesturing motion. The background is a blurred green wall.

Two keynotes. Two rooms.

Judd speaks on two subjects that come from the same place.

The Brave Space is for organizations. A leadership discipline, backed by measured results, for teams navigating uncertainty, trust, and culture change.

The Power of Authentic Connection is for rooms where the subject is human before it is professional. It's about the pain people carry privately, and what becomes possible when they stop hiding and start connecting honestly.

Neither keynote started as a framework. They started with a question Judd had to answer for himself first. That question is the foundation of both talks. The framework, the audience, and the room are what differ.

The Brave Space

Authentic leadership as the infrastructure of high-performing culture

Most leadership frameworks tell people what to do. The Brave Space shows leaders how to stay.

Most leaders are taught to move fast through uncertainty. Decide. Execute. Project confidence. But the most important leadership happens in the pause before the decision. The moment where certainty hasn't formed yet and the room is watching.

The Brave Space is the disciplined ability to stay present in that pause long enough for clarity, honesty, and alignment to surface. It isn't a mindset exercise. It's the condition that determines whether honest leadership can emerge in a room, and whether the culture around a leader reflects their values or their defaults.

Notice the impulse to fill silence, project confidence, or force a decision before the room is ready. This is the moment most leaders miss.

Stay long enough for clarity to surface. Staying is the hardest movement. It means tolerating the discomfort of not knowing, holding space for disagreement, and trusting that what emerges from patience is stronger than what comes from speed.

Choose a response aligned with values, not self-protection. Choosing is where leadership becomes visible. Not the reactive choice. Not the safe choice. The honest one.

This discipline is designed to be repeated without a facilitator in the room. It scales from a single keynote to an enterprise-wide culture initiative.

Your team walks away with

- **A repeatable discipline.** Notice, Stay, Choose gives teams shared language and a practice they can operationalize immediately, without a facilitator in the room.
- **Honest leadership under pressure.** Leaders learn to recognize the habits that once drove success but now limit range, reduce dissent, and create internal friction.
- **Values-driven decisions.** When leaders stop performing certainty and start practicing presence, values, behavior, and decisions come into alignment. People feel it.
- **A culture that can hold tension.** The organizations that grow aren't the ones that eliminate uncertainty. They're the ones that build the capacity to stay inside it together.

Best For

Senior leaders

Executive teams

Leadership development programs

Organizations navigating transition or scale

The Power of Authentic Connection

The Surprising Cure for Loneliness and Disconnection

We all carry pain we haven't fully resolved. Most of us build entire lives around managing it. This keynote is about what happens when someone stops managing and starts connecting.

From the outside, Judd Shaw's life looked successful. A thriving attorney, a growing firm, a public profile. Underneath it was pain he had carried since childhood and spent decades building a life designed to outrun. It showed up in isolation. In coping mechanisms that started as relief and became their own kind of prison. In a professional identity that looked like strength and worked as a hiding place.

This keynote is what happened when the weight of it became too great to carry alone.

The Connection CURE

Four movements, drawn from *How to Live Authentically*.

Conscious Awareness

Seeing how we're showing up, and what we're performing to keep the world at arm's length.

Understanding

When did we first learn it wasn't safe to be ourselves?

Renewal

The daily work of rewriting the operating system. New habits. New boundaries. Asking for help without shame.

Expansion

When someone feels safe being who they are, the people around them get permission to do the same.

The experience

Before Judd shares a word of his own story, the room turns to each other. Through a structured exercise, audience members share something true with the person beside them. By the time Judd starts speaking, people have already been seen. By the end, something has loosened. Not because he gave them answers. Because for an hour, no one had to hide.

Your audience walks away with

- **What it looks like to carry pain, and what it looks like to let it go.** Judd's story includes the false starts and setbacks, not just the breakthrough.
- **A framework for how disconnection forms and how connection heals it.** The Connection CURE gives audiences shared language and a path forward.
- **Real connection in the room, not just a talk about it.** The interactive exercises create the very thing Judd is describing.
- **Recognition that creating space for connection is generational work.** When one person finds their way back, it changes everyone around them.

Best For

Mental health conferences

Treatment and recovery spaces

Healthcare systems

Education

HR wellness events

Organizations invested in well-being

The Experience

Every talk is designed to create the conditions it describes rather than only explain them.

That means structured dialogue instead of lecture. Silence held rather than filled. Judd going first. A room can't be asked to be honest by someone performing certainty at the front of it, so the framework operates as method and content at the same time.

Every engagement is shaped around what the organization is actually facing. Judd works with clients before the event to understand the specific terrain. What's at stake, where leadership is being tested, and what people need language for. The talk is built from there.

Pre-Engagement Alignment

Every engagement starts with understanding the terrain. Your people, your context, and what's shaping the room. The talk is built from there, not from a template.

Tailored Keynote Design

Talks are shaped around your audience and goals using insights from conversations with leadership and an understanding of what the organization is navigating.

Post-Keynote Momentum

Audiences leave with shared language and clearer ways to engage. Follow-on resources, book availability, and optional facilitated discussion help ensure the conversation continues.

Formats

Keynote (45–90 minutes)

Extended keynote (up to 2 hours)

Keynote + facilitated discussion

Half-day workshop

Full-day workshop

Bios & Introductions

Short Bio

Judd Shaw is a keynote speaker, author, and the CEO of one of New Jersey's most successful law firms, which he has led for more than two decades and still runs today.

The firm was already thriving when the personal work he did changed how he led. When he brought that shift back into the organization, the culture changed with it. Then he measured it.

That experience is the foundation of everything he brings to the stage. He takes the room as someone who has lived what he's talking about: present, direct, and attuned to what the people in front of him are navigating. Every talk is shaped around the specific terrain of the organization, because the most useful conversation is never the generic one.

He is the author of *How to Live Authentically*, a USA Today Bestseller, host of the Behind the Armor podcast, and the founder of Brave Ideas Company.

Extended Bio

Judd Shaw is a keynote speaker, author, and an active CEO.

For more than two decades he has built and led one of New Jersey's most successful law firms. By every external measure the organization was a success. His face was on billboards across the state. The firm was thriving. Clients were well served. The team was delivering. Underneath it, Judd was carrying something he had never resolved and had built a life around managing.

The personal work that followed changed how he showed up as a leader. When he brought

that shift back into the firm, his team didn't just accept it. They preferred it. The organization got measurably better. Retention strengthened. Decision-making clarity improved. Trust accelerated execution.

Through that process Judd came to see something he now brings to every organization he works with: something doesn't need to be broken to be made better. When leaders begin to operate more honestly and more presently, something measurable changes in the culture around them. The leadership habits that build a high-performing organization are not always the ones that take it to the next level.

He measured what shifted. The results documented inside his own organization are the evidentiary foundation of his work. Honest leadership isn't soft. It's brave, and it's the infrastructure of sustainable, high-performing culture.

His keynotes are built on that proof. Tailored to the specific moment an organization is in, and grounded in a conviction he can back with data: the leaders who will define the next decade are the ones who can tolerate uncertainty without abandoning integrity.

He speaks from inside the experience, not from the other side of it.

Judd is the author of *How to Live Authentically: The Surprising Cure for Loneliness and Disconnection*, a USA Today Bestseller. He hosts the Behind the Armor podcast, founded Brave Ideas Company, and writes the Sterling the Knight children's book series. He is the president of Judd Shaw No-Fault Law and lives in Tampa with his family.

Stage Introduction: The Brave Space

Most leadership talks are given by people who study organizations. Our next speaker runs one.

For more than two decades, Judd Shaw has built and led one of New Jersey's most successful law firms. He still leads it today. Several years ago he changed how he showed up in that role, brought the change to his team, and then measured what happened over the following two years.

Trust in how people do their work, up 53 percent. People feeling heard, up 40 percent. Perceptions of integrity and collaboration, up 35 percent.

The discipline behind those numbers is called The Brave Space.

He is the author of *How to Live Authentically*, a USA Today Bestseller, host of the Behind the Armor podcast, and the founder of Brave Ideas Company.

Please welcome Judd Shaw.

Stage Introduction: The Power of Authentic Connection

There is a parable our next speaker tells about a man who falls into a hole. A doctor walks by and drops a prescription. A priest walks by and drops a prayer. Then a stranger walks by and jumps in. The man says: "What are you doing? Now we're both stuck." The stranger says: "Yeah, but I've been down here before. And I know the way out."

Judd Shaw has been in the hole. He built one of New Jersey's most successful law firms. From the outside it looked like he had everything figured out. He was falling apart quietly behind the image of it.

What he built from that experience became the center of the work he now brings to the stage. He is the author of *How to Live Authentically*, a USA Today Bestseller, host of the Behind the Armor podcast, and the founder of Brave Ideas Company.

He speaks from inside the experience, not from the other side of it.

Please welcome Judd Shaw.



Selected Work

Judd Shaw No-Fault Law

Founder and CEO

More than two decades leading the firm where the leadership principles Judd speaks about were developed, tested, and measured in real conditions with real consequences.

[Visit Judd Shaw No-Fault Law](#)

USA Today Bestseller

How to Live Authentically

The Surprising Cure for Loneliness and Disconnection (Author)

The book that extends the keynote conversation beyond the event. Part memoir, part framework. It traces the personal transformation that changed how Judd leads and the principles that made the organization measurably stronger. For organizations, it gives teams a shared language for the work. Available for individual and bulk purchase.

[Explore the book](#)

Brave Ideas Company

Leadership and Culture Advisory (Founder)

Workshops, coaching, and consulting for individuals and organizations building the capacity for authentic leadership: greater self-awareness, deeper connection, and more honest conversations at every level.

[Visit Brave Ideas Company](#)

Behind the Armor

Podcast hosted by Judd Shaw

Conversations about what people carry behind their roles, titles, and expectations, and what becomes possible when they begin to share their real stories.

[Listen to the Conversations](#)



Keynote Speaker • Author • Active CEO

Based in Florida

Travels Nationwide from the Tampa area

Technical Requirements

Wireless lavalier mic • AV capability for supporting media •
Confidence monitor with timer preferred • 60-min soundcheck •
No podium preferred • Water on stage

To inquire about booking Judd
for your next event, contact:

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