COMERICA INC /NEW/ Form DEF 14A March 12, 2019

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# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549** 

#### SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant ý Filed by a Party other than the Registrant o

Check the appropriate box:

- o Preliminary Proxy Statement
- o Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- ý Definitive Proxy Statement
- o Definitive Additional Materials
- o Soliciting Material under §240.14a-12

## **Comerica Incorporated**

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- ý No fee required
- o Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11
  - (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

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## **Comerica Incorporated**

# Proxy Statement and Notice of 2019 Annual Meeting of Shareholders

## **Comerica Incorporated**

Comerica Bank Tower 1717 Main Street Dallas, Texas 75201

March 12, 2019

Dear Shareholder.

It is our pleasure to invite you to attend the 2019 Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Comerica Incorporated at 9:30 a.m., Central Time, on Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at Comerica Bank Tower, 1717 Main Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Dallas, Texas 75201. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m., Central Time. A map showing the location of the Annual Meeting is on the back cover of the accompanying proxy statement.

This year, we are continuing to provide proxy materials to our shareholders primarily through the Internet. We are pleased to use this process, which allows our shareholders to receive proxy materials in an expedited manner, while significantly lowering the costs of our annual proxy campaign. On or about March 12, 2019, we mailed to our shareholders of record (other than those who previously requested electronic delivery) a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials containing instructions on how to access this proxy statement, our annual report and additional soliciting materials online. If you received a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials by mail, you will not receive a printed copy of the proxy materials in the mail (with the exception of the proxy card, which will be separately mailed on or around March 22, 2019 to shareholders of record that have not yet voted) unless you specifically request them. The Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials instructs you on how to electronically access and review all of the important information contained in this proxy statement and the annual report, and it provides you with information on voting. The proxy materials available online include our 2019 proxy statement, our 2018 annual report, which summarizes Comerica's major developments during 2018 and includes the 2018 consolidated financial statements, and additional soliciting materials.

Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, please submit your proxy promptly so that your shares will be voted as you desire.

Sincerely,

Ralph W. Babb, Jr. Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

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#### PROXY STATEMENT

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this proxy statement. This summary does not contain all of the information that you should consider, and you should read the entire proxy statement carefully before voting.

#### **Annual Meeting of Shareholders**

Time and Date 9:30 a.m., Central Time, April 23, 2019

Place Comerica Bank Tower, 1717 Main Street, 4th Floor, Dallas, Texas 75201

**Record Date** February 22, 2019

Mailing Date On or around March 12, 2019

**Voting** Shareholders as of the record date are entitled to vote. Each share of common stock is entitled to one vote for each

director nominee and one vote for each of the proposals to be voted on.

#### **Voting Matters**

Election of directors	<b>Board Vote Recommendation</b> FOR EACH DIRECTOR NOMINEE	Page Reference
Ratification of Ernst & Young LLP as independent registered public accounting firm for 2019	FOR	37
Advisory approval of the Company's executive compensation	FOR	43

#### **Voting Your Shares**

If you are a shareholder of record as of February 22, 2019, you will be able to vote in four ways: in person, by proxy card, by telephone, or by the Internet as follows:

BY TELEPHONE: 1-800-652-VOTE (8683)

VIA THE INTERNET: www.envisionreports.com/CMA, or scan the QR code on the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or proxy card

BY MAIL: complete, sign, date and return your proxy card in the envelope provided

IN PERSON: attend our Annual Meeting on April 23, 2019 and vote by ballot

See "How can I vote?" on page 11 for more information on voting at the Annual Meeting.

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#### 2018 Financial and Operating Performance

2018 was a year of definitive progress for Comerica. We drove substantial revenue growth, while maintaining favorable credit metrics and well-controlled expenses. We also benefitted from a lower tax rate due to tax reform. Through a significant increase in our share repurchases and dividend, we were able to achieve an all-time high for capital returned to our shareholders. We reported a return on assets of 1.75% and a return on equity of 15.82% which clearly demonstrated our commitment to enhancing shareholder value.

Some of our noteworthy accomplishments in 2018 included<sup>1</sup>:

Grew net interest income 14% as we skillfully managed loan and deposit pricing as interest rates rose throughout 2018.

Aided by our GEAR Up initiatives, increased customer-driven fee income, such as card, fiduciary and brokerage fees.

Total revenue increased to an all-time high, surpassing last year's record.

Improved our efficiency ratio to 54% as a result of robust revenue growth combined with tight expense control, which was aided by our GEAR Up initiatives.

Strong credit quality was evidenced by the continued reduction in criticized loans, which were at very low levels. Net credit-related charge-offs were 11 basis points of average loans. This resulted in a decrease of \$75 million in our provision for credit losses, from a provision of \$74 million in 2017 to a \$1 million benefit in 2018.

Achieved a 24% increase in pre-tax income.

A \$191 million decrease in the provision for income taxes resulted from the impact of a lower statutory tax rate due to tax reform and a \$120 million decrease in discrete tax items, partially offset by an increase in pre-tax income.

Drove net income to \$1.2 billion, an increase of \$492 million, or 66%, as well as a 74% increase in earnings per share, to a record \$7.20.

Repurchased 14.8 million shares of common stock under our equity repurchase program. Additionally, increased our dividend 69% to \$1.84 per share and, subsequent to year-end, increased the quarterly dividend further by 7 cents per share, payable April 1, 2019. Altogether, we returned \$1.6 billion to shareholders in 2018, an increase of \$903 million.

Having already achieved our first- and second-generation greenhouse gas ("GHG") reduction goals, set new goals to reduce our real estate-related GHG emissions by 50% by 2025; by 65% by 2030, and by 100% by 2050 (compared to our 2012 baseline).

Total shareholder return ("TSR"), which includes price appreciation and dividends paid, for the one-year period was -19% (vs. peer<sup>2</sup> average of -18%), three-year period was 74% (vs. peer<sup>2</sup> average of 30%) and five-year period was 58% (vs. peer<sup>2</sup> average of 36%).

Balances as of December 31, 2018, as compared to December 31, 2017. Activity and performance for the year ended December 31, 2018, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2017.

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The peer group is listed in the "Peer Group and Benchmarking" section of this proxy statement on page 56.

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2018 Relative Performance Snapshot

2016-2018 Performance Snapshot

1 Source for Peer Average: S&P Global Market Intelligence

2 Source: Bloomberg

3 Noninterest expenses as a percentage of net interest income & noninterest income excluding net gains (losses) from securities & a derivative contract tied to the conversion rate of Visa Class B shares

For purposes of these charts, peer average is the average of the relevant metric for Comerica's peer group. The peer group is listed in the "Peer Group and Benchmarking" section of this proxy statement on page 56.

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#### 2018 Compensation Highlights

We use our executive compensation programs to align the interests of executive officers with the interests of our shareholders. Our programs are designed to attract, retain, and motivate leadership to sustain our competitive advantage in the financial sector, and to provide a framework that encourages strong financial results and positive shareholder returns over the long-term.

Our executive compensation programs are developed through a robust review process between management and the Board of Directors. For 2018, based on shareholder and regulatory feedback, the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee refined our compensation programs to more closely calibrate them with short and long-term goals, while maintaining a strong pay-for-performance linkage. Key highlights include:

Eliminated the long-term cash program ("LTEI"), which measured performance relative to peers. This change better aligns program design with other financial institutions and feedback received from regulators and investors.

Redistributed the incentive opportunity previously provided under the LTEI among the short-term cash and long-term equity incentive programs, thus retaining market competitive incentive compensation.

Replaced time-based restricted stock awards ("RSAs" or "restricted stock") with restricted stock units ("RSUs") with a retirement provision. Unlike the previously-awarded RSAs, dividends on the RSUs are accumulated and paid in cash at the time of vesting and will not be distributed on unvested shares.

Revised stock program to include all senior officers, regardless of pay grade, in the Senior Executive Long-Term Performance Program, a three-year, forward-looking performance program. This is the first time that all senior officers have equity awards subject to performance goals.

Adopted a new equity compensation plan, approved by shareholders in April 2018, that includes key best practices, such as:

- Double-trigger vesting if awards are assumed by a buyer;
- Prohibition on repricing of stock options and stock appreciation rights;
- Minimum vesting requirement for at least 95% of plan awards;
- No payout of dividends on unvested equity; and
- o Individual share limits.

#### **Board and Governance Highlights**

Our management team and the Board are focused on serving the long-term interests of Comerica's shareholders. The Board's primary responsibility is the oversight of the Company's management team, and the Board has a number of measures in place to continually enhance Board composition, efficiency and effectiveness, demonstrated through the following:

Annual election of directors

Majority voting for directors

Annual self-evaluation by the Board and its committees

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Regular assessment of Board composition and potential enhancements, resulting in two new independent directors in 2016, one of whom was designated as the Board's risk expert, and one new independent director in 2017

Regularly-scheduled executive sessions of non-management directors

Robust responsibilities and duties assigned to independent Facilitating Director

Ten out of twelve directors are independent

Independent Audit Committee, Enterprise Risk Committee, Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee and Qualified Legal Compliance Committee

42% of the Board is diverse, based on race, gender and/or ethnicity

Board is engaged in the review of and adherence to Comerica's long-term corporate strategy, both on an annual basis at a dedicated session and as part of executing its regular Board responsibilities

All director nominees and all incumbent directors attended at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the aggregate number of meetings held by the Board and all the committees of the Board on which the respective directors served

#### **Corporate Responsibility Highlights**

Comerica's Core Values of customer-centricity, collaboration, integrity, excellence, agility, diversity and involvement reflect our commitment to corporate responsibility.

The Enterprise Risk Committee of the Board oversees all of Comerica's risk management, including environmental and social risks. Comerica is focused on sustainability with our 2020 Environmental Sustainability Goals that are expected to help us further reduce waste, water use, paper consumption, and energy and emissions. The Enterprise Risk Committee reviews the sustainability strategy on an annual basis.

The Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee is responsible for determining the constituency of the Board, and looks at diversity of experience, professions, skills, geographic representation and/or backgrounds when evaluating nominees. At the employee level, Comerica supports diversity and inclusion through our Executive Diversity Council ("EDC"), comprised of our Chairman and CEO and his leadership team. All of Comerica's senior executives are required to include diversity in their performance plan and objectives throughout their lines of business.

More information, including our 2017 Corporate Responsibility Progress Report, is available at www.comerica.com/sustainability.

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#### **Board Nominees**

The following table provides summary information about each director nominee. Each director nominee will be elected for a one-year term. Directors are elected by a majority of votes cast.

		Director			<b>Committee Memberships</b>				Other Public
Name	Age	since	Occupation	Independent	AC	GCNC	ERC	QLCC	Company Boards
Ralph W. Babb, Jr.	70	2001	Chairman & CEO, Comerica Incorporated and Comerica Bank						Texas Instruments Inc.
Michael E. Collins	67	2016	Chair and Senior Counselor, Blake Collins Group; Former Consultant, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland; and Former Executive Vice President, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia	X	X		X	X	
Roger A. Cregg	62	2006	Former President & CEO, AV Homes, Inc.	X	F	X		X	
r. Kevin DeNicola	64	2006	Former CFO, KIOR, Inc.	X	C, F		X	С	
Curtis C. Farmer	56	2018	President, Comerica Incorporated and Comerica Bank						
acqueline P. Kane	66	2008	Retired; Former EVP, Human Resources and Corporate	X		X			

Affairs, The Clorox

Company

			Company						
Richard G. Lindner	64	2008	Retired; Former SEVP & CFO, AT&T, Inc.	IFD		C	X		
Barbara R. Smith	59	2017	Chairman, President & CEO, Commercial Metals Company	X		X			Commercial Metals Company
Robert S. Faubman	65	2000	Chairman, President & CEO, Taubman Centers, Inc. and The Taubman Company	X			X		Taubman Centers, Inc.
Reginald M. Turner, Jr.	59	2005	Attorney, Clark Hill	X	X		С	X	Masco Corporation
√ina G. Vaca	47	2008	Chairman & CEO, Pinnacle Technical Resources, Inc. and Vaca Industries Inc.	X	X		X	X	Cinemark Holdings, Inc., Kohl's Corporation
Michael G. Van de Ven	57	2016	COO, Southwest Airlines	X		X			

AC Audit Committee; C Chair; ERC Enterprise Risk Committee; F Financial expert; GCNC Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee; IFD Independent Facilitating Director; QLCC Qualified Legal Compliance Committee

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#### **Director Qualifications and Experience**

In identifying candidates for nomination as directors, the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee considers the individual's specific qualities and skills.

The following table provides an overview of our director nominees' specific skills, experiences and areas of knowledge that allow the Board to effectively serve and represent the interests of Comerica's four core constituencies: its shareholders, its customers, the communities it serves and its employees. In addition, directors gain substantial experience through Comerica Board tenure, which involves significant exposure to the complex regulations and changing landscape of the financial services industry.

# COMERICA INCORPORATED NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS APRIL 23, 2019

Date: April 23, 2019

Time: 9:30 a.m., Central Time

Place: Comerica Bank Tower

1717 Main Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Dallas, Texas 75201

We invite you to attend the Comerica Incorporated Annual Meeting of Shareholders for the following purposes:

 To elect twelve directors nominated by the Board of Directors for one-year terms expiring in 2020 or upon the election and qualification of their successors;

 To ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2019;

3. To approve a non-binding, advisory proposal approving executive compensation; and

4.

To transact any other business that is properly submitted before the Annual Meeting or any adjournments or postponements of the Annual Meeting.

The record date for the Annual Meeting is February 22, 2019 (the "Record Date"). Only shareholders of record at the close of business on the Record Date can vote at the Annual Meeting. Action may be taken at the Annual Meeting on any of the foregoing proposals on the date specified above or any date or dates to which the Annual Meeting may be adjourned or postponed.

Under rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, we are furnishing proxy materials to our shareholders primarily via the Internet, instead of mailing printed copies of the proxy statement and annual report. Shareholders of record have been mailed a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials on or around March 12, 2019, which provides them with instructions on how to vote and how to electronically access the proxy materials on the Internet. It also provides them with instructions on how to request paper copies of these materials, should they so desire. In addition, on or around March 22, 2019, Comerica will mail a proxy card to its shareholders of record that have not yet voted, along with a second copy of the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials. Shareholders of record who previously enrolled in a program to receive electronic versions of the proxy materials will receive an email notice with details on how to access those materials and how to vote.

Comerica will have a list of shareholders who can vote at the Annual Meeting available for inspection by shareholders at the Annual Meeting and, for 10 days prior to the Annual Meeting, during regular business hours at the offices of the Comerica Corporate Legal Department, Comerica Bank Tower, 1717 Main Street, Dallas, Texas 75201.

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See the "Admission to the Annual Meeting" section of the proxy statement for information about attending the Annual Meeting in person.

See the "Questions and Answers" section of the proxy statement for a discussion of the difference between a shareholder of record and a street name holder.

Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting and whether you own a few or many shares of stock, the Board of Directors urges you to vote promptly. Registered holders may vote through the Internet, by telephone or, once you receive a printed proxy card in the mail, by completing, dating, signing and returning the proxy card so that your shares may be represented at the Annual Meeting. "Street name" holders must vote their shares in the manner prescribed by their brokerage firm, bank or other nominee. You will find instructions for voting in the "Questions and Answers" section of the proxy statement.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

John D. Buchanan Executive Vice President Chief Legal Officer, and Corporate Secretary

March 12, 2019

Comerica Incorporated Comerica Bank Tower 1717 Main Street Dallas, Texas 75201

#### 2019 PROXY STATEMENT

#### **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

#### What is a proxy?

A proxy is your authorization for someone else to vote for you in the way that you want to vote. When you complete and submit a proxy card or use the automated telephone voting system or the Internet voting system, you are submitting a proxy. The Board of Directors of Comerica Incorporated ("Comerica," the "Company" or "we") is soliciting this proxy. All references in this proxy statement to "you" will mean you, the shareholder, and to "yours" will mean the shareholder's or shareholders', as appropriate.

#### What is a proxy statement?

A proxy statement is a document the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") requires to explain the matters on which you are asked to vote on by proxy and to disclose certain related information. This proxy statement was first made available to shareholders on or about March 12, 2019.

#### Why am I receiving my proxy materials electronically instead of receiving paper copies through the mail?

Under rules adopted by the SEC, we are furnishing proxy materials to our shareholders primarily via the Internet, instead of mailing printed copies of the proxy statement and annual report. In addition to reducing the amount of paper used in producing these materials, this method lowers the costs associated with mailing the proxy materials to shareholders.

On or about March 12, 2019, we mailed to our shareholders of record (other than those who previously requested electronic delivery) a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials containing instructions on how to access this proxy statement and our annual report online. If you received a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials by mail, you will not receive a printed copy of the proxy materials in the mail (with the exception of the proxy card, which will be separately mailed on or around March 22, 2019 to shareholders of record that have not yet voted). The Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials instructs you on how to electronically access and review all of the important information contained in this proxy statement and the annual report, and it provides you with information on voting.

If you received a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials by mail and would like to receive a paper copy of our proxy materials, follow the instructions contained in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials about how you may request to receive your materials in printed form on a one-time or ongoing basis.

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#### Who can vote?

Only record holders of Comerica common stock, par value \$5.00 per share ("Comerica Common Stock") at the close of business on February 22, 2019, the Record Date, can vote at the Annual Meeting. Each shareholder of record has one vote, for each share of Comerica Common Stock owned, on each matter presented for a vote at the Annual Meeting.

#### What is the difference between a shareholder of record and a "street name" holder?

If your shares are registered directly in your name, you are considered the shareholder of record with respect to those shares.

If your shares are held in a stock brokerage account or by a bank or other nominee, then the brokerage firm, bank or other nominee is considered to be the shareholder of record with respect to those shares. However, you still are considered the beneficial owner of those shares, and your shares are said to be held in "street name." Street name holders generally cannot vote their shares directly and must instead instruct the brokerage firm, bank or other nominee how to vote their shares. See "How can I vote?" below.

#### How can I vote?

If you are a shareholder of record as of the Record Date (as opposed to a street name holder), you will be able to vote in four ways: in person, by proxy card, by telephone, or by the Internet. On or about March 12, 2019, we mailed to our shareholders of record (other than those who previously requested electronic delivery) a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials containing instructions on how to access the proxy materials and how to submit their proxy via the Internet. In addition, on or about March 22, 2019, we will mail a printed version of the proxy card, along with a second copy of the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, to such shareholders of record, if they have not yet voted. Generally, shareholders of record will need information on the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or the proxy card to vote. If you previously enrolled in a program to receive electronic versions of Comerica's annual report and proxy statement instead of receiving printed versions, you will receive an email notice that will provide you with the information you will need to access the proxy materials and vote.

To vote in person, you will need to attend the Annual Meeting to cast your vote. To vote by proxy card, complete, sign, date and return the proxy card in the return envelope provided with your proxy card. To vote by using the automated telephone voting system or the Internet voting system, the instructions for shareholders of record are as follows:

TO VOTE BY TELEPHONE: 1-800-652-VOTE (8683)

Use any touch-tone telephone to vote your proxy.

Have your proxy card or Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials available when you call.

Follow the simple instructions the system provides you.

You may dial this toll free number at your convenience, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The deadline for telephone voting is 11:59 p.m. (Central Time), April 22, 2019. For shares held in Comerica's employee benefit plans, the deadline is 11:59 p.m. (Central Time), April 21, 2019.

(OR)

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TO VOTE BY THE INTERNET: www.envisionreports.com/CMA, or scan the QR code on the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or proxy card

Use the Internet to vote your proxy.

Have your proxy card or Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials available when you access the website.

Follow the simple instructions to obtain your records and create an electronic ballot.

You may log on to this Internet site at your convenience, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The deadline for Internet voting is 11:59 p.m. (Central Time), April 22, 2019. For shares held in Comerica's employee benefit plans, the deadline is 11:59 p.m. (Central Time), April 21, 2019.

If you submit a proxy to Comerica before the Annual Meeting, whether by proxy card, by telephone or by Internet, the persons named as proxies will vote your shares as you direct. If no instructions are specified, the proxy will be voted for the twelve directors nominated by the Board of Directors; for the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2019; and for the non-binding, advisory proposal to approve executive compensation. No other matters are currently scheduled to be acted upon at the Annual Meeting.

You may revoke a proxy at any time before the proxy is exercised by:

- (1) delivering written notice of revocation to the Corporate Secretary of Comerica at the Corporate Legal Department, Comerica Bank Tower, 1717 Main Street, MC 6404, Dallas, Texas 75201;
- (2) submitting another properly completed proxy card that is later dated;
- voting by telephone at a subsequent time;
- voting by the Internet at a subsequent time; or
- voting in person at the Annual Meeting.

If you hold your shares in "street name," you must vote your shares in the manner prescribed by your brokerage firm, bank or other nominee. Your brokerage firm, bank or other nominee should have enclosed or otherwise provided a voting instruction card for you to use in directing the brokerage firm, bank or other nominee how to vote your shares. If you hold your shares in street name and you want to vote in person at the Annual Meeting, you must obtain a legal proxy from your broker and present it at the Annual Meeting.

#### What is a quorum?

There were 157,915,429 shares of Comerica Common Stock issued and outstanding on the Record Date. A majority of the issued and outstanding shares, 78,957,715 shares, present or represented by proxy at the meeting, constitutes a quorum. A quorum must exist to conduct business at the Annual Meeting.

#### What vote is required?

Directors: If a quorum exists, the nominees for director receiving a majority of the votes cast (*i.e.*, the number of shares voted "for" a director nominee exceeds the number of votes cast "against" that nominee) will be elected as directors. Votes cast will include only votes cast with respect to shares present in person or represented by proxy at the meeting and entitled to vote and will exclude abstentions. Therefore, shares not present at the meeting, broker non-votes (described

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below) and shares voting "abstain" have no effect on the election of directors. If the number of nominees exceeds the number of directors to be elected, the directors shall be elected by the vote of a plurality of the shares represented in person or by proxy at the meeting. If a director does not receive the vote of the majority of the votes cast and no successor has been elected at such meeting, the director will promptly tender his or her resignation to the Board. After taking into account a recommendation by the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee and excluding the nominee in question, the Board of Directors will decide and publicly disclose its determination about whether to accept the resignation within 90 days of the certification of the voting results.

Other Proposals: If a quorum exists, the proposals: (i) to ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as independent registered public accounting firm and (ii) to approve a non-binding, advisory proposal to approve executive compensation must receive the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote on the proposal in question. Therefore, abstentions will have the same effect as voting against the applicable proposal. For the non-binding, advisory proposal to approve executive compensation, broker non-votes will not be counted as eligible to vote on the applicable proposal and, therefore, will have no effect on the outcome of the voting on that proposal.

If you hold your shares in street name and do not provide voting instructions to your broker, your shares will not be voted on any proposal on which your broker does not have discretionary authority to vote under the rules of the stock exchange or other organization of which it is a member. In this situation, a "broker non-vote" occurs.

An independent third party, Computershare Trust Company, N.A., will act as the inspector of the Annual Meeting and the tabulator of votes.

#### Who pays for the costs of the Annual Meeting?

Comerica pays the cost of preparing and printing the proxy statement and soliciting proxies. Comerica will solicit proxies primarily by mail, but may also solicit proxies personally and by telephone, the Internet, facsimile or other means. Comerica will use the services of Innisfree M&A Incorporated, a proxy solicitation firm, at a cost of \$15,000 plus out-of-pocket expenses and fees for any special services. Officers and regular employees of Comerica and its subsidiaries may also solicit proxies, but they will not receive additional compensation for soliciting proxies. Comerica also will reimburse banks, brokerage houses and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries for their out-of-pocket expenses for forwarding solicitation materials to beneficial owners of Comerica Common Stock.

#### When are shareholder proposals for the 2020 Annual Meeting due?

To be considered for inclusion in next year's proxy statement, shareholder proposals must comply with applicable laws and regulations, including SEC Rule 14a-8, as well as Comerica's bylaws, and must be submitted in writing to the Corporate Secretary, Comerica Incorporated, Comerica Bank Tower, 1717 Main Street, MC 6404, Dallas, Texas 75201, and received by November 13, 2019.

Comerica's bylaws also establish an advance notice procedure with regard to shareholder proposals that are not submitted for inclusion in the proxy statement, but that a shareholder instead wishes to present directly at an Annual Meeting of Comerica's shareholders. For the 2020 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, notice must be received by Comerica's Corporate Secretary no later than the close of business on January 24, 2020 and no earlier than the close of business on December 25, 2019. If, however, Comerica moves the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to a date that is more than 30 days before or more than 60 days after the date which is the one-year anniversary of this year's Annual Meeting date (*i.e.*, April 23, 2020), Comerica's Corporate Secretary must receive your notice no earlier than the close of business on the 120th day prior to the new Annual Meeting date and no

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later than the close of business on the later of the 90th day prior to the new Annual Meeting date or the 10th day following the day on which Comerica first made a public announcement of the new Annual Meeting date.

Comerica's bylaws contain additional requirements for shareholder proposals. A copy of Comerica's bylaws can be obtained by making a written request to the Corporate Secretary.

#### How can shareholders nominate persons for election as directors at the 2020 Annual Meeting?

All shareholder nominations of persons for election as directors at the 2020 Annual Meeting of Shareholders must comply with applicable laws and regulations, as well as Comerica's bylaws, and must be submitted in writing to the Corporate Secretary, Comerica Incorporated, Comerica Bank Tower, 1717 Main Street, MC 6404, Dallas, Texas 75201.

Under Comerica's bylaws, shareholders of Comerica must provide advance notice to Comerica's Corporate Secretary if they wish to nominate persons for election as directors at an Annual Meeting of Comerica's Shareholders. For the 2020 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, written notice must be received by Comerica's Corporate Secretary no later than the close of business on January 24, 2020 and no earlier than the close of business on December 25, 2019.

If, however, Comerica moves the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to a date that is more than 30 days before or more than 60 days after the date that is the one-year anniversary of this year's Annual Meeting date (*i.e.*, April 23, 2020), or if a special meeting of shareholders is called for the purpose of electing directors, Comerica's Corporate Secretary must receive your notice no earlier than the close of business on the 120th day prior to the meeting date and no later than the close of business on the later of the 90th day prior to the meeting date or the 10th day following the day on which Comerica first made a public announcement of the meeting date (and, in the case of a special meeting, of the nominees proposed by the Board of Directors to be elected at such meeting).

If Comerica increases the number of directors to be elected to the Board at the Annual Meeting and there is no public announcement naming all of the nominees for director or specifying the size of the increased Board at least 100 days prior to the first anniversary of the immediately preceding year's Annual Meeting, then Comerica will consider your notice timely (but only with respect to nominees for any new positions created by such increase) if Comerica's Corporate Secretary receives your notice no later than the close of business on the 10th day following the day on which Comerica first makes the public announcement of the increase in the number of directors.

In addition, Article III, Section 12 of the bylaws requires a nominee for election or re-election as a director of Comerica to complete and deliver to the Corporate Secretary (in accordance with the time periods described above, in the case of director nominations by shareholders) a written questionnaire prepared by Comerica with respect to the background and qualification of the person and, if applicable, the background of any other person or entity on whose behalf the nomination is being made.

A nominee also must make certain representations and agree that he or she (A) will abide by the requirements of Article III, Section 13 of the bylaws (concerning, among other things, the required tendering of a resignation by a director who does not receive a majority of votes cast in an uncontested election), (B) is not and will not become a party to (1) any agreement, arrangement or understanding with, and has not given any commitment or assurance to, any person or entity as to how, if elected as a director of Comerica, he or she will act or vote on any issue or question (a "Voting Commitment") that has not been disclosed to Comerica or (2) any Voting Commitment that could limit or interfere with his or her ability to comply, if elected as a director of Comerica, with his or her fiduciary duties under applicable law, (C) is not and will not become a party to any agreement, arrangement or understanding with any person or entity other than Comerica with respect to any direct or indirect compensation, reimbursement or indemnification in connection with

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service or action as a director that has not been disclosed, and (D) in his or her individual capacity and on behalf of any person or entity on whose behalf the nomination is being made, would be in compliance, if elected as a director of Comerica, and would comply with all applicable publicly disclosed corporate governance, conflict of interest, confidentiality and stock ownership and trading policies and guidelines of Comerica.

You may receive a copy of Comerica's bylaws specifying the advance notice and additional requirements for shareholder nominations by making a written request to the Corporate Secretary.

#### Does Comerica have a Code of Ethics?

Yes, Comerica has a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics for Employees, which applies to employees and agents of Comerica and its subsidiaries and affiliates, as well as a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics for Members of the Board of Directors. Comerica also has a Senior Financial Officer Code of Ethics that applies to the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Accounting Officer and Treasurer. The Code of Business Conduct and Ethics for Employees, the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics for Members of the Board of Directors and the Senior Financial Officer Code of Ethics are available on Comerica's website at www.comerica.com. Copies of such codes can also be obtained in print by making a written request to the Corporate Secretary.

A copy of Comerica's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, may be obtained without charge upon written request to the Corporate Secretary, Comerica Incorporated, Comerica Bank Tower, 1717 Main Street, MC 6404, Dallas, Texas 75201.

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Shareholder Meeting To Be Held on April 23, 2019.

The proxy statement, annual report to security holders and additional soliciting materials are available at www.envisionreports.com/CMA.

#### PROPOSAL I SUBMITTED FOR YOUR VOTE

#### **ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors recommends that you vote "FOR" the candidates for director.

**Election of Directors.** Comerica's Board of Directors currently has twelve members, and directors are elected annually for terms of one year. Based on the recommendation of the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee, the Board has nominated all of Comerica's current directors to serve another term or until their successors are elected and qualified.

The Board has chosen to nominate Comerica's current directors based on their unique expertise, experiences, perspectives and leadership skills.

Our nominees include individuals who:

Are experienced in leading complex, highly-regulated companies (including banks and other financial services entities)

Have served in a variety of leadership roles on boards and management teams of U.S. public companies

Have significant regulatory and risk management experience

Have extensive experience in the geographic areas in which we operate

Understand Comerica's business and unique position in the banking industry

The current directors are the only nominees, and each of them has been previously elected by the shareholders except for Mr. Farmer, who was appointed to the Board in July 2018. Mr. Farmer also serves as President of Comerica. Each of the nominees has consented to his or her nomination and has agreed to serve as a director of Comerica, if elected. Proxies cannot be voted for a greater number of people than the number of nominees named.

If any director is unable to stand for re-election, Comerica may vote the shares to elect any substitute nominees recommended by the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee, and it is intended that such shares represented by proxy, if given and unless otherwise specified therein, will be voted FOR the remaining nominees and substitute nominee or nominees so designated. If any such substitute nominees are so designated, Comerica would expect to provide supplemental proxy materials that, as applicable, identify the substitute nominees, disclose that such nominees have consented to being named in Comerica's proxy materials and to serve if elected, and include biographical and other information about such nominees to the extent required by the rules of the SEC. If the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee does not recommend any substitute nominees, the number of directors to be elected at the Annual Meeting may be reduced by the number of nominees who are unable to serve.

Further information regarding the Board and the nominees begins directly below.

COMERICA'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE "FOR" EACH OF THE DIRECTOR CANDIDATES LISTED BELOW.

#### INFORMATION ABOUT NOMINEES

The following section provides information as of March 12, 2019 about each nominee for election as a director.

The information provided includes the age of each nominee or incumbent director; the nominee's or incumbent director's principal occupation, employment and business experience during the past five years, including employment with Comerica and Comerica Bank, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Comerica, as well as other professional experience; other public company or registered investment company directorships during the past five years; and the year in which the nominee or incumbent director became a director of Comerica.

#### Ralph W. Babb, Jr.

Director since 2001<sup>(1)</sup>

Mr. Babb, 70, has been Chief Executive Officer (since January 2002), Chairman (since October 2002), President (January 2002 to April 2015), Chief Financial Officer (June 1995 to April 2002) and Vice Chairman (March 1999 to January 2002) of Comerica Incorporated and Comerica Bank. Before joining Comerica, Mr. Babb served as the vice chairman for Mercantile Bancorporation Inc. after years of service with Peat Marwick Mitchell & Co. (an accounting firm). Additionally, Mr. Babb has been a director of Texas Instruments Inc. since March 2010. He served as a member of the Federal Reserve Board Advisory Council from September 2013 to December 2017.

Mr. Babb brings to the Board in-depth knowledge of Comerica's business resulting from his years of service; extensive industry experience as a result of several decades in the banking industry and his professional involvement with the Federal Reserve Board; and leadership experience as the Company's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and former President and Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Babb led the successful execution of our enterprise-wide GEAR Up initiative, lowering Comerica's 2018 efficiency ratio below 54% and raising 2018 return on equity to almost 16%. He also led an overall enhancement of Comerica's risk governance structure, with a focus on mitigating risk across the Company, including credit, market, liquidity, operational, compliance and cybersecurity.

#### Michael E. Collins

Director since 2016

Mr. Collins, 67, has served as the Chair and Senior Counselor of Blake Collins Group, a public relations and communications firm, since July 2013. He was an advisor to The Bancorp, Inc., a financial services institution, from July 2013 to November 2016. He also served as a consultant to the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, a bank regulator, from November 2014 to March 2015 and as Executive Vice President and Lending Officer of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, a bank regulator, from June 2009 to June 2011, where he worked in various capacities beginning in 1974. He was the President and Chief Executive Officer of TD Bank USA, a financial services institution, from March 2013 to July 2013 and Executive Vice President of TD Bank Group, a group of affiliated financial services entities, where he managed audit, legal, compliance, anti-money laundering, regulatory, loan review and government affairs functions from November 2011 to July 2013. He also was Executive Vice President of TD Bank Group and Strategic Advisor to TD Bank USA from September 2011 to October 2011. He was a director of Higher One Holdings, Inc. from April 2015 to August 2016.

As a former banking and finance executive with nearly 40 years of regulatory experience, including service with the Federal Reserve Banks of Cleveland and Philadelphia, Mr. Collins brings to the Board a number of key skills, including a strong background in risk management and relevant business management experience, as well as a deep understanding of the financial services industry, including bank regulation. His experience in identifying, assessing, and managing risk exposures of large, complex financial firms allows Mr. Collins to provide invaluable insight to Comerica.

#### Roger A. Cregg

Director since 2006

Mr. Cregg, 62, was President, Chief Executive Officer and a director of AV Homes, Inc., a developer and homebuilder in Florida, Arizona and North Carolina, from December 2012 to October 2018. From August 2011 through November 2012, he served as Senior Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer of The ServiceMaster Company, a residential and commercial service company. He served as Executive Vice President of PulteGroup, Inc. (formerly known as Pulte Homes, Inc.), a national homebuilding company, from May 2003 to May 2011 and Chief Financial Officer of PulteGroup, Inc. from January 1998 to May 2011. He served as Senior Vice President of PulteGroup, Inc. from January 1998 to May 2003. He was a director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Detroit Branch, from January 2004 to December 2009 and served as Chair from January to December 2006.

As the former Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of public companies, Mr. Cregg has demonstrated leadership capability and extensive knowledge of complex financial and operational issues.

#### T. Kevin DeNicola

Director since 2006

Mr. DeNicola, 64, served as Chief Financial Officer of KIOR, Inc., a biofuels company, from November 2009 to January 2011. He was Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of KBR, Inc., a global engineering, construction and services company, from June 2008 until October 2009. From June 2002 to January 2008, he was Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Lyondell Chemical Company, a global manufacturer of basic chemicals. Mr. DeNicola also served as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Equistar Chemicals, LP and Millennium Chemicals Inc., both subsidiaries of Lyondell Chemical Company, from June 2002 to January 2008. In January 2009, Lyondell Chemical Company and certain of its subsidiaries, including Equistar Chemicals, LP and Millennium Chemicals Inc., filed voluntary petitions for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code. Lyondell emerged from bankruptcy in April 2010. He was also a director of Axiall Corporation (formerly Georgia Gulf Corporation) from September 2009 to August 2016.

Mr. DeNicola is an experienced financial leader with the skills necessary to lead our Audit Committee. His service as Chief Financial Officer of public companies makes him a valuable asset, both on our Board of Directors and as the Chairman of our Audit Committee. Mr. DeNicola's positions have provided him with a wealth of knowledge in dealing with financial and accounting matters. He is also a licensed CPA. The depth and breadth of his exposure to complex financial issues make him a skilled advisor.

#### Curtis C. Farmer

Director since 2018

Mr. Farmer, 56, has been President (since April 2015); Vice Chairman (April 2011 to April 2015) and Executive Vice President (October 2008 to April 2011) of Comerica Incorporated and Comerica Bank. Prior to joining Comerica, Mr. Farmer served as Executive Vice President and Wealth Management Director of Wachovia Corporation from October 2005 to October 2008. During his 23 years of service to Wachovia, he held a variety of positions of increasing scope and responsibility.

Mr. Farmer is an experienced financial services executive who has been nominated to serve on the Board because of his extensive skills and institutional knowledge in the areas of business and consumer banking. As President of Comerica, he has a deep understanding of all aspects of Comerica's core businesses and markets, and has supervised Comerica's marketing and enterprise technology and operations functions. Mr. Farmer successfully executed ongoing GEAR Up initiatives to drive market share, increase non-interest income and improve operational efficiencies, specifically the End-to-End Credit Redesign, which involved enhancing consistency across divisions, expanding revenue through key contracts and alliances, and improved risk management oversight. He also has broad experience in wealth management and leadership through his long tenure at Wachovia Corporation.

#### Jacqueline P. Kane

Director since 2008

Ms. Kane, 66, is retired. She served as Executive Vice President, Human Resources and Corporate Affairs, from February 2015 to January 2016, Senior Vice President, Human Resources and Corporate Affairs, from December 2004 to February 2015, Senior Vice President, Human Resources from June 2004 to December 2004, and Vice President, Human Resources from March 2004 to May 2004 for The Clorox Company, a manufacturer and marketer of consumer products. From March 2003 to January 2004, she was Vice President, Human Resources and Executive Leadership for The Hewlett-Packard Company, a technology company. Prior to her role at The Hewlett-Packard Company, Ms. Kane spent 22 years in human resources in the financial services industry.

As a former senior executive with experience in human resources, including compensation matters, as well as experience in several of our key geographic markets, Ms. Kane has a unique and insightful perspective to offer the Board. As a member of our Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee, she is able to use her experience and perspectives to offer best practices advice.

#### Richard G. Lindner

Director since 2008

Mr. Lindner, 64, is retired. He served as Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of AT&T, Inc. (formerly SBC Communications, Inc.), a telecommunications company, from May 2004 to June 2011. From October 2000 to May 2004, he was the Chief Financial Officer of Cingular Wireless LLC (now AT&T Mobility LLC), a wireless telecommunications company. From October 2002 to March 2007, he served as a director of Sabre Holdings.

As the former Chief Financial Officer of AT&T, Inc., Mr. Lindner has demonstrated leadership capability and extensive knowledge of complex financial and operational issues facing large organizations. In addition, Mr. Lindner is able to draw upon, among other things, his knowledge of several of our key geographic markets that he has gained through experience in the telecommunications industry.

#### Barbara R. Smith

Director since 2017

Ms. Smith, 59, has been President, Chief Executive Officer and a director of Commercial Metals Company, a manufacturer, recycler and marketer of steel and metal products, since September 2017, and Chairman since January 2018. She joined Commercial Metals Company as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer in 2011 and served in that capacity until she was promoted to Chief Operating Officer in 2016 and President and Chief Operating Officer in January 2017. Previously, she served as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Gerdau Ameristeel from 2007-2011 and as Treasurer from 2006-2007. She also served as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of FARO Technologies, Inc. from February 2005 to July 2006. During the more than 20 prior years, Ms. Smith held positions of increasing financial leadership with Alcoa Inc. She was a director of Minerals Technologies Inc. from 2011 to July 2017, where she served as Chair of the Audit Committee and a member of the Compensation Committee.

Ms. Smith brings to the Board a number of key skills, including relevant business leadership and management experience, expertise in geographic markets in which Comerica has a presence, including our headquarters market, and significant financial expertise garnered through the chief financial officer and treasury roles she has held during her professional career.

#### Robert S. Taubman

Director since 2000<sup>(2)</sup>

Mr. Taubman, 65, has been Chairman of Taubman Centers, Inc., a real estate investment trust that owns, develops and operates regional shopping centers nationally, since December 2001 and has been President and Chief Executive Officer of Taubman Centers, Inc., since August 1992. He has been Chairman of The Taubman Company, a shopping center management company engaged in leasing, management and construction supervision, since December 2001 and has been President and Chief Executive Officer of The Taubman Company since September 1990. He was a director of Sotheby's Holdings, Inc. from 2000 until his retirement in May 2016, and has served as a director of Taubman Centers, Inc. since 1992.

As an executive involved in real estate development and operations, Mr. Taubman has demonstrated leadership capability and brings key experience in the real estate sector. He also brings insight through experience in many of Comerica's geographic markets.

#### Reginald M. Turner, Jr.

Director since 2005

Mr. Turner, 59, has been an attorney with Clark Hill, a law firm, since April 2000 and has served on the firm's Executive Committee since January 2016. He has been a director of Masco Corporation since March 1, 2015. Mr. Turner is active in public service and with civic and charitable organizations, serving in leadership positions with the American Bar Association, the Detroit Public Safety Foundation, the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan and the Hudson-Webber Foundation.

As a lawyer, Mr. Turner has a unique legal and risk management perspective to offer the Board. He also has extensive involvement and experience in community affairs.

#### Nina G. Vaca(3)

Director since 2008

Ms. Vaca, 47, has been Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Pinnacle Technical Resources, Inc., a staffing, vendor management and information technology services firm, since October 1996. She also has been Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Vaca Industries Inc., a privately-held management company, since April 1999. She has been a director of Kohl's Corporation since March 2010 and a director of Cinemark Holdings, Inc. since November 2014. In 2014, the Obama Administration appointed Ms. Vaca as a Presidential Ambassador for Global Entrepreneurship. Ms. Vaca is also Chairman Emeritus of the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and serves as Chairman of the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Foundation.

As a chief executive officer with experience in staffing, vendor management and information technology, as well as successful entrepreneurial endeavors, Ms. Vaca offers a unique and insightful perspective to the Board.

#### Michael G. Van de Ven

Director since 2016

Mr. Van de Ven, 57, has been Chief Operating Officer of Southwest Airlines Co., a passenger airline, since May 2008. Previously, he served as Executive Vice President from May 2008 to January 2017, Chief of Operations from September 2006 to May 2008, Executive Vice President Aircraft Operations from November 2005 through August 2006, and Senior Vice President Planning from August 2004 to November 2005. He joined Southwest in 1993 and held various positions and responsibilities for the airline including financial planning and analysis, fleet planning, aircraft operations and schedule planning. He also served as senior audit manager for Ernst & Young LLP for 9 years ending in 1993 and is a licensed CPA.

Mr. Van de Ven brings to the Board a number of key skills, including relevant business management experience, a strong background in risk management, expertise in geographic markets in which Comerica has a presence, particularly our headquarters market, and a deep understanding of financial planning and accounting, among others.

#### **Footnotes:**

- (1) Mr. Babb became a director of Comerica Bank in 2000.
- Mr. Taubman became a director of Manufacturer's Bank, N.A. or its predecessors in 1987. He became a director of Comerica Bank in 1992 when it merged with Manufacturer's Bank, N.A. He resigned as a director of Comerica Bank in 2000, when he became a director of Comerica.
- (3) Professional name of Ximena G. Humrichouse.

#### **BOARD AND COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE**

**Annual Elections.** Comerica's directors are elected each year by the shareholders at the Annual Meeting, to hold office until the next Annual Meeting and until their successors are elected and qualified.

**Majority Voting Standard.** In an election of directors where the number of nominees does not exceed the number of directors to be elected, each director must receive the vote of the majority of the votes cast with respect to that director. If a director does not receive the vote of the majority of the votes cast and no successor has been elected at such meeting, the director will promptly tender his or her resignation to the Board.

**Annual Self-Evaluation.** The Board conducts an annual self-evaluation to determine whether it and its committees are functioning effectively. The Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee reviews the self-evaluation process. A report is made to the Board on the assessment of the performance of the Board and its committees.

**Overboarding Limit.** To ensure that our directors have sufficient time to devote to Comerica and its shareholders, our directors may not serve on more than three public company boards in addition to the Comerica Board, and members of Comerica's Audit Committee may not serve on more than two other public company audit committees.

Nominee Selection Process. In identifying candidates for nomination as directors, the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee considers the individual's specific qualities and skills. Criteria for assessing nominees include a potential nominee's ability to represent the interests of Comerica's four core constituencies: its shareholders, its customers, the communities it serves and its employees. Minimum qualifications for a director nominee are experience in those areas that the Board determines are necessary and appropriate to meet the needs of Comerica, including leadership positions in public companies, small or middle market businesses, or not-for-profit, professional/regulatory or educational organizations.

For those proposed director nominees who meet the minimum qualifications, the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee then assesses the proposed nominee's specific qualifications, evaluates his or her independence, and considers other factors, including skills, geographic location, considerations of diversity, standards of integrity, memberships on other boards (with a special focus on director interlocks), and ability and willingness to commit to serving on the Board for an extended period of time and to dedicate adequate time and attention to the affairs of Comerica as necessary to properly discharge his or her duties. Considerations of diversity can include seeking nominees with a broad diversity of experience, professions, skills, geographic representation and/or backgrounds. The Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee does not assign specific weights to particular criteria, and no particular criterion is necessarily applicable to all prospective nominees. Nominees are not discriminated against on the basis of race, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability or any other basis proscribed by law.

In addition, Article III, Section 12 of the bylaws requires a nominee for election or re-election as a director of Comerica to complete and deliver to the Corporate Secretary a written questionnaire prepared by Comerica with respect to the background and qualification of the person and, if applicable, the background of any other person or entity on whose behalf the nomination is being made. All of the director nominees completed the required questionnaire.

A nominee also must make certain representations and agree that he or she (A) will abide by the requirements of Article III, Section 13 of the bylaws (concerning, among other things, the required tendering of a resignation by a director who does not receive a majority of votes cast in an uncontested election), (B) is not and will not become a party to (1) any agreement, arrangement or understanding with, and has not given any commitment or assurance to, any person or entity as to how, if elected as a director of Comerica, he or she will act or vote on any issue or question (a

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"Voting Commitment") that has not been disclosed to Comerica or (2) any Voting Commitment that could limit or interfere with his or her ability to comply, if elected as a director of Comerica, with his or her fiduciary duties under applicable law, (C) is not and will not become a party to any agreement, arrangement or understanding with any person or entity other than Comerica with respect to any direct or indirect compensation, reimbursement or indemnification in connection with service or action as a director that has not been disclosed, and (D) in his or her individual capacity and on behalf of any person or entity on whose behalf the nomination is being made, would be in compliance, if elected as a director of Comerica, and would comply with all applicable publicly disclosed corporate governance, conflict of interest, confidentiality and stock ownership and trading policies and guidelines of Comerica. All of the director nominees made the foregoing representations and agreements.

The Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee does not have a separate policy for consideration of any director candidates recommended by shareholders. Instead, the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee considers any candidate meeting the requirements for nomination by a shareholder set forth in Comerica's bylaws (as well as applicable laws and regulations) in the same manner as any other director candidate. The Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee believes that requiring shareholder recommendations for director candidates to comply with the requirements for nominations in accordance with Comerica's bylaws ensures that the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee receives at least the minimum information necessary for it to begin an appropriate evaluation of any such director nominee.

The Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee also periodically uses a third-party search firm for the purpose and function of identifying potential director nominees.

## COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS OF DIRECTORS

The Board had several committees in 2018, as described below. The names of the directors serving on the committees and the committee chairs, where applicable, are also set forth in the chart. The current terms of the various standing committee members expire in April 2019.

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## AUDIT COMMITTEE

Committee Chair: T. Kevin DeNicola

Other Committee Members: Michael E. Collins Roger A. Cregg Reginald M. Turner, Jr. Nina G. Vaca

Meetings held in 2018: 13

All members are independent and financially literate in accordance with New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") requirements

The Board of Directors has determined that Mr. DeNicola and Mr. Cregg are audit committee financial experts in accordance with SEC rules

None of the members of the Audit Committee serve on the audit committees of more than three public companies

Governed by a Board-approved Charter

This committee is responsible, among other things, for providing assistance to the Board by overseeing: (i) the integrity of Comerica's financial statements; (ii) Comerica's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements; (iii) the independent registered public accounting firm's qualifications and independence; and (iv) the performance of Comerica's internal audit function and independent registered public accounting firm, including with respect to both bank and non-bank subsidiaries; and by preparing the "Audit Committee Report" found in this proxy statement.

A current copy of the charter of the Audit Committee is available to security holders on Comerica's website at www.comerica.com or may be obtained in print by making a written request to the Corporate Secretary.

## ENTERPRISE RISK COMMITTEE

Committee Chair: Reginald M. Turner, Jr.

Other Committee Members: Michael E. Collins T. Kevin DeNicola Richard G. Lindner Robert S. Taubman Nina G. Vaca

Meetings held in 2018: 4

All members are independent

Mr. Collins has been designated the Board's risk expert

This committee has responsibility for the risk-management policies of Comerica's operations and oversight of the operation of Comerica's risk-management framework.

A current copy of the charter of the Enterprise Risk Committee is available to security holders on Comerica's website at www.comerica.com or may be obtained in print by making a written request to the Corporate Secretary.

Governed by a Board-approved Charter

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## GOVERNANCE, COMPENSATION AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Committee Chair: Richard G. Lindner

Other Committee Members: Roger A. Cregg Jacqueline P. Kane Barbara R. Smith Michael G. Van de Ven

Meetings held in 2018: 5

All members are independent

Governed by a Board-approved Charter

This committee, among other things, establishes Comerica's executive compensation policies and programs, administers Comerica's 401(k), stock, incentive, pension and deferral plans, monitors compliance with laws and regulations applicable to the documentation and administration of Comerica's employee benefit plans, monitors the effectiveness of the Board, oversees corporate governance issues and periodically reviews succession plans for key officers of Comerica and reports to the Board on succession planning. Among its various other duties, this committee reviews and recommends to the full Board candidates to become Board members, develops and administers performance criteria for members of the Board, and oversees matters relating to the size of the Board, its committee structure and assignments, and the conduct and frequency of Board meetings. The Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee also oversees the discussion, review and evaluation of our compensation plans as described below. This committee may delegate its authority to a subcommittee of its members and may allow limited delegations to management.

A current copy of the charter of the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee is available to security holders on Comerica's website at www.comerica.com or may be obtained in print by making a written request to the Corporate Secretary.

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#### **OUALIFIED LEGAL COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**

Committee Chair: T. Kevin DeNicola

Other Committee Members: Michael E. Collins Roger A. Cregg Reginald M. Turner, Jr. Nina G. Vaca

Did not meet in 2018

All members are independent

This committee assists the Board in promoting the best interests of Comerica by reviewing evidence of potential material violations of securities law or breaches of fiduciary duties or similar violations by Comerica or any officer, director, employee, or agent thereof, providing recommendations to address any such violations, and monitoring Comerica's remedial efforts with respect to any such violations.

A current copy of the charter of the Qualified Legal Compliance Committee is available to security holders on Comerica's website at www.comerica.com or may be obtained in print by making a written request to the Corporate Secretary.

Governed by a Board-approved Charter

**Other Committees.** The Special Preferred Stock Committee, the Capital Committee and the Capital Plan Committee are temporary committees of the Board of Directors, all of which did not meet in 2018.

**Board and Committee Meetings.** There were six regular meetings of the Board, one special meeting of the Board and 22 meetings of the various committees and subcommittees of the Board during 2018. All director nominees and all incumbent directors attended at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the aggregate number of meetings held by the Board and all the committees of the Board on which the respective directors served, including Mr. Farmer, during the period of his nomination to the Board.

Comerica expects all of its directors to attend the Annual Meeting except in cases of illness, emergency or other reasonable grounds for non-attendance. All of the eleven Board members serving at the time of the 2018 Annual Meeting attended the 2018 Annual Meeting.

## NON-MANAGEMENT DIRECTORS AND COMMUNICATION WITH THE BOARD

The non-management directors meet at regularly scheduled executive sessions without management. Every year, the non-management directors elect a Facilitating Director, for a one-year term, to lead such sessions. Currently, Richard G. Lindner is the Facilitating Director at such sessions. Interested parties may communicate directly with Mr. Lindner or with the non-management directors as a group by sending written correspondence, delivered via United States mail or courier service, to: Secretary of the Board, Comerica Incorporated, Comerica Bank Tower, 1717 Main Street, MC 6404, Dallas, Texas 75201, Attn: Non-Management Directors. Alternatively, shareholders may send communications to the full Board by sending written correspondence, delivered via United States mail or courier service, to: Secretary of the Board, Comerica Incorporated, Comerica Bank Tower, 1717 Main Street, MC 6404, Dallas, Texas 75201, Attn: Full Board of Directors. The Board of Directors' current practice is that the Secretary will relay all communications received to the Facilitating Director, in the case of communications to non-management directors, and to the Chairman of the Board, in the case of communications to the full Board.

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## **BOARD LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE**

Our Chief Executive Officer also serves as the Chairman of the Board. Mr. Babb has provided strong leadership to the Board and management, instilling a clear focus on the Company's strategy and business plans. The Board has chosen this structure because it believes the Chief Executive Officer serves as a bridge between management and the Board, ensuring that both groups act with a common purpose. Although the Board believes that it is more effective to have one person serve as the Company's Chairman and Chief Executive, it also believes that it is simultaneously important to have a robust governance structure to ensure a strong and independent Board. All directors, with the exception of the Chairman and the President, are independent as defined under NYSE rules, and the Audit Committee, the Enterprise Risk Committee, the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee and the Qualified Legal Compliance Committee are comprised entirely of independent directors. The Board also has an independent Facilitating Director (Mr. Lindner) who leads the non-management directors in regularly scheduled executive sessions. As Facilitating Director, Mr. Lindner's duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

Presiding at all other meetings of the Board at which the Chairman is not present;
Serving as liaison between the Chairman and the independent directors;
Approving information sent to the Board;
Approving meeting agendas for the Board;
Approving meeting schedules for the Board to assure that there is sufficient time for discussion of all agenda items;
Having the authority to call meetings of the independent directors; and
If requested by major shareholders, ensuring that he is available for consultation and direct communication.

The Facilitating Director position is elected annually by the non-management directors. The Board believes that the Facilitating Director further strengthens the Board's independence and autonomous oversight of our business as well as Board communication and effectiveness. The executive sessions over which he presides allow non-management directors to discuss issues facing the Company, including matters concerning management, without any members of management present. The role of the Facilitating Director provides the necessary leadership for such discussions and serves as a bridge between the independent directors and the Company's management team.

## ROLE IN RISK OVERSIGHT

Comerica has historically had and continues to pursue a strong risk management culture. We recognize that nearly every action taken as a financial institution requires some degree of risk. Our objective is not to eliminate risk but to give consideration to ensure we take the appropriate risks. Risk management is one of the interlinking pillars of Comerica's corporate strategy which reinforces its critical role within our organization. In choosing when and how to take risks, we evaluate our capacity for risk and seek to protect our brand and reputation, our financial flexibility, the value of our assets and the strategic potential of our Company. Each year, our Board approves a statement of our Company's risk appetite, which is used internally to help our Board and management understand our Company's tolerance for risk in each of the major risk categories and allow for the adaption of those tolerances to align with a changing economic environment.

Governance and oversight of risk management activities are shared by management and our Board as follows:

**Enterprise Risk Committee.** The Enterprise Risk Committee, as discussed on page 25, oversees policies, procedures and practices relating to credit risk, market risk, liquidity risk, operational risk (including cybersecurity risk), compliance risk (including compliance with bank regulatory obligations), and other general risks to Comerica and the actions

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undertaken or to be undertaken to identify, measure, monitor and control such risks. To help discharge its duties, the Enterprise Risk Committee has established the Enterprise-Wide Risk Management Committee.

**Enterprise-Wide Risk Management Committee.** This group is principally comprised of senior officers representing the different risk areas and business units. Members of the Enterprise-Wide Risk Management Committee are appointed by the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Comerica. It meets at least quarterly and periodically submits a comprehensive risk report to the Enterprise Risk Committee providing its view of Comerica's risk position.

**Chief Risk Officer.** Comerica's Chief Risk Officer, Jay K. Oberg, reports directly to Comerica's Chief Executive Officer and to the Enterprise Risk Committee. He is responsible for overseeing risk on an enterprise-wide basis. This includes ongoing compliance with policies and procedures relating to risk management governance, risk management procedures, and risk control infrastructure, and monitoring compliance with such policies and procedures, among other responsibilities.

**Board Risk Expert.** In November 2016, Comerica appointed Michael E. Collins to the Board of Directors and to the Enterprise Risk Committee. As a former banking and finance executive with nearly 40 years of regulatory experience, including service with the Federal Reserve Banks of Cleveland and Philadelphia, Mr. Collins has experience identifying, assessing, and managing risk exposures of large, complex financial firms and has been designated the Board's risk expert.

**Audit Committee.** In addition to providing oversight of our financial statements and compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, the Audit Committee plays a key role in risk management through the validation and oversight of our internal controls, policies and procedures to ensure their effectiveness.

**General Auditor.** Comerica's General Auditor, Christine M. Moore, reports directly to Comerica's Chief Executive Officer and to the Audit Committee. She is responsible for evaluating and opining on the effectiveness of Comerica's internal controls, policies and procedures.

**Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee.** The Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee provides information on the risks associated with the Company's compensation programs. A more detailed discussion of the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee's evaluation of risk and compensation programs can be found on pages 67-70.

Each of the Enterprise Risk Committee, the Audit Committee and the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee reports regularly to the full Board. The Board believes that Comerica has the appropriate leadership to help ensure effective risk oversight. This risk leadership includes our Chief Risk Officer, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, our independent Facilitating Director, the Board, various committees of the Board, and various management committees.

## TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PERSONS

## **Review of Transactions with Related Persons**

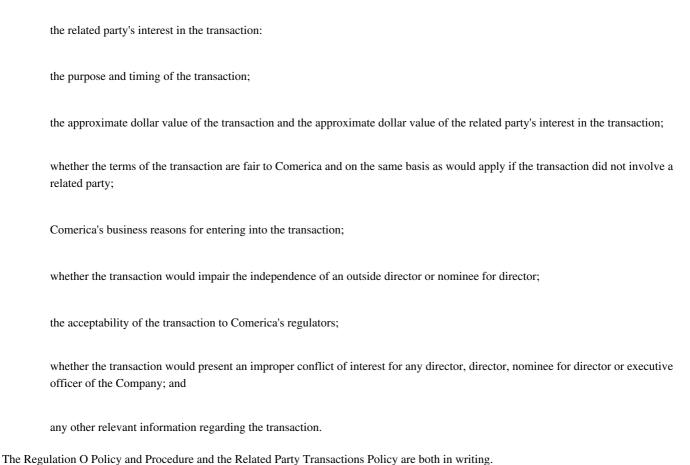
Comerica has adopted a Regulation O Policy and Procedure document to implement the requirements of Regulation O of the Federal Reserve Board, which restricts the extension of credit to directors and executive officers and their family members, as well as 10% or greater shareholders, and the related interests of any of the foregoing. Under the policy and procedure, extensions of credit that exceed regulatory thresholds must be approved by the board of the appropriate subsidiary bank.

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In addition to loan transactions that are covered by Regulation O, the Board has also adopted a policy setting forth procedures for the review, approval, and monitoring of other transactions greater than \$120,000 involving Comerica and related persons (directors, director nominees, executive officers, 5% shareholders and immediate family members or primary business affiliations of such persons). Under the policy, the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee is responsible for reviewing and approving or ratifying all transactions involving related persons. Directors may not vote on a related party transaction in which he or she or any member of his or her immediate family is a related person, but the director may participate in some or all of the Committee's discussions. The policy also permits the Chair of the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee to review and, if deemed appropriate, approve proposed related-person transactions that arise between Committee meetings, in which case they will be reported to the full Committee at its next meeting.

The policy also contains a list of categories of transactions involving related persons that need not be brought to the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee for approval. These include transactions involving brokerage, banking, insurance, investment advisory or asset management services, and other financial services we provide to any related person, if the services are provided in the ordinary course of business, on substantially the same terms as those prevailing at the time for comparable services provided to non-affiliates and comply with applicable law, including the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and Federal Reserve Board Regulation O.

The Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee will review the following information when assessing a related party transaction:



# **Banking and Credit Transactions with Executive Officers and Directors**

Certain of the executive officers and directors of Comerica, their related entities, and members of their immediate families were customers of and had transactions in the ordinary course of business (including loans and loan commitments, as well as other financial products and services) with banking affiliates of Comerica during 2018 that did not require approval under the Related Party Transactions Policy. Comerica made all loans and commitments in the ordinary course of business, on substantially the same terms (including interest rates and collateral) as those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions with other persons not related to or affiliated with Comerica or its subsidiaries, and the transactions did not involve more than the normal risk of collectability or present other unfavorable features. Further, such loans and commitments were all made in

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accordance with Comerica's Regulation O Policy and Procedure. Comerica also offers employee discounts to its employees, including executive officers, on certain financial services not involving an extension of credit.

#### DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

The Board of Directors has determined that all non-management directors, currently constituting 83% of the full Board of Directors of Comerica, are independent within the meaning of the listing standards of the NYSE. In making such determination, the Board of Directors has affirmatively determined that the following current directors meet the categorical standards of independence described below and have no material relationship with Comerica (either directly or as a partner, shareholder or officer of an organization that has a relationship with Comerica) other than as a director: Michael E. Collins, Roger A. Cregg, T. Kevin DeNicola, Jacqueline P. Kane, Richard G. Lindner, Barbara R. Smith, Robert S. Taubman, Reginald M. Turner, Jr., Nina G. Vaca and Michael G. Van de Ven. Additionally, all of the Audit Committee members satisfy the independence standards under Exchange Act Rule 10A-3 and NYSE rules, and all of the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee members satisfy the independence standards under NYSE rules. The Board of Directors further determined that Ralph W. Babb, Jr. and Curtis C. Farmer are not independent because they are employees of Comerica.

## **Categorical Standards**

Pursuant to Comerica's Corporate Governance Guidelines, in no event will a director be considered "independent" if, currently or within the preceding three (3) years:

- (i) the director is or was employed by Comerica;
- (ii) an immediate family member of the director is or was employed by Comerica as an executive officer;
- (iii) the director, or any of his or her immediate family, receives or received more than \$120,000 per year in direct compensation from Comerica, other than director and committee fees and pension or other forms of deferred compensation for prior service (provided such compensation is not contingent in any way on continued service);
- (iv)
  the director or any immediate family member of the director, is or has been a partner or employee of a firm that is or was during the preceding three years Comerica's internal or external auditor and personally works or worked on Comerica's audit within that time;
- (v) the director or an immediate family member of the director is or was employed as an executive officer of another company if any of Comerica's present executives at the same time serves or served on that company's compensation committee;
- (vi)
  the director is a current partner or employee of a firm that is Comerica's internal or external auditor, or any immediate family member of the director is a current partner of such firm; or
- (vii)
  the director is a current executive officer or an employee, or any of the Director's immediate family is a current executive officer, of another company (other than a tax exempt charitable organization) that makes payments to or receives payments from Comerica for property or services in an amount which, in any of the last three fiscal years, exceeds the greater of \$1 million or 2% of such other company's consolidated gross revenues.

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Subject to the foregoing, the Corporate Governance Guidelines also state that the following relationships are considered immaterial:

- ordinary lending relationships with the director or any of the director's related interests, as defined in the Federal Reserve Board's Regulation O, if, (A) in each such case, the extension of credit was made in the ordinary course of business and is on substantially the same terms as those with non-affiliated persons; (B) in each such case, the extension of credit has been made in compliance with applicable law, including the Federal Reserve Board's Regulation O, if applicable; (C) in each such case, no material event of default has occurred under the extension of credit; (D) the aggregate amount of the extensions of credit to the Director and all of his or her related interests does not exceed 1% of Comerica's consolidated assets; and (E) in each such case, the borrower represents to Comerica that, if the borrower is a company or other entity, that a termination of the extension of credit would not reasonably be expected to have a material and adverse effect on the financial condition, results of operations or business of the borrower; or, if the borrower is an individual, that a termination of the extension of credit would not reasonably be expected to have a material and adverse effect on the financial condition of the borrower.
- (ii) ordinary lending relationships entered into in the ordinary course of business between Comerica and any entity, which is not a related interest of a director, that employs a director or any member of a director's family;
- (iii) other commercial transactions (not including extensions of credit) entered into in the ordinary course of business between Comerica and any entity that employs (a) a director, (b) a director's spouse or (c) any child of a director who is residing in the director's home, if the annual sales to, or purchases from, such entity constitute less than 1% of Comerica's consolidated gross revenues or constitute less than 1% of such entity's consolidated gross revenues;
- (iv)

  a director of Comerica serving as a board or trustee member, but not as an executive officer, of a not-for-profit organization that received discretionary charitable contributions in any given year from Comerica or the Comerica Charitable Foundation; and
- (v)

  a director of Comerica serving as an executive officer of a not-for-profit organization, if the discretionary charitable contributions made to the organization in any given year by Comerica and the Comerica Charitable Foundation, in the aggregate (exclusive of any employee contributions), are less than 5% (or \$1,000,000, whichever is greater) of that organization's consolidated gross revenues.

A current copy of the Corporate Governance Guidelines is available to security holders on Comerica's website at www.comerica.com or may be obtained in print by making a written request to the Corporate Secretary.

## Director Transactions, Relationships or Arrangements by Category or Type

In connection with making its director independence determinations, the Board specifically considered the following relationships and transactions, all of which were deemed immaterial:

Loans, extensions of credits and related commitments to certain directors and/or their respective immediate family members, affiliated entities and/or charities with which they are affiliated (Mr. Taubman, Mr. Turner, Ms. Vaca, Mr. Van de Ven) have been made by Comerica Bank in the ordinary course of business, on substantially the same terms (including interest rates and collateral) as those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions with other persons not related to or affiliated with Comerica or its subsidiaries, and the

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transactions did not involve more than the normal risk of collectability or present other unfavorable features.

Banking and financial services (other than extensions of credit) provided by Comerica in the ordinary course of business to certain directors and/or their respective immediate family members, affiliated entities and/or charities with which they are affiliated, on terms and conditions not more favorable than those available to other similarly situated customers.

Charitable contributions or other payments in the ordinary course of business by Comerica and/or the Comerica Charitable Foundation to charitable organizations with which a director or immediate family member is affiliated.

Service of certain directors on the same non-profit boards or executive committees as Comerica's executive officers.

Other commercial transactions (not including extensions of credit) entered into in the ordinary course of business between Comerica and entities where a director of Comerica serves in an advisory capacity or the director's spouse is employed as a non-executive officer, where the annual purchases from such entity constitute less than 1% of Comerica's consolidated gross revenues.

Situations in which Comerica serves in a fiduciary capacity for a client needing legal services where it selects, on behalf of its client, a law firm to represent the client. If applicable, the firm with a related pre-existing relationship with the client is typically selected by Comerica (*e.g.*, the firm that drafted a will in which Comerica is named fiduciary of the associated estate). From time to time, this has resulted in the engagement, by the client, of the firm with which Mr. Turner is a member. Mr. Turner is not directly involved in providing these legal services, and any associated fees are paid to the firm from the client's funds, not from funds belonging to Comerica.

Situations in which other members of Mr. Turner's law firm represent clients in legal matters indirectly or potentially directly adverse to Comerica, such as loans and other commercial transactions (in which his firm represents a borrower), trust administration matters (where Clark Hill might represent a trust or beneficiary and/or act as co-trustee for a trust for which Comerica serves as trustee), real property claims (in which Clark Hill may represent an entity seeking an easement or condemnation with respect to real property in which Comerica holds the mortgage) and bankruptcy litigation (in which his firm represents creditors other than Comerica), and thus receives fees from such parties it represents, but not from Comerica.

## COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION

During 2018, Mr. Cregg, Ms. Kane, Mr. Lindner, Ms. Smith and Mr. Van de Ven served as members of the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee. No such individual is, or was during 2018, an officer or employee of Comerica or any of its subsidiaries, nor was any such member formerly an officer of Comerica or any of its subsidiaries. No executive officer of Comerica served as a director or member of the compensation committee of another entity, one of whose directors or executive officers served as a member of our Board or a member of the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee.

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## COMPENSATION OF DIRECTORS

The Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee determines the form and amount of non-employee director compensation and makes a recommendation to the Board of Directors for final approval. In determining director compensation, the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee considers the recommendations of Mr. Babb, as well as information provided by the compensation consultant retained by the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee to provide market analyses and consulting services on director compensation matters. See "Role of the Independent Compensation Consultant" on page 55 for more information about the compensation consultant retained by the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee.

## **Director Compensation Highlights**

Comerica maintains director stock ownership guidelines encouraging non-employee directors to own at least 5,000 shares of Comerica Common Stock (including restricted stock units) within five years of the date the non-employee director was initially appointed or elected to the Board. Of those 5,000 shares, at least 1,000 shares should be beneficially owned within 12 months of the date the non-employee director was initially appointed to the Board.

As of December 31, 2018, all non-employee directors have met their respective stock ownership guideline levels, based on period of service.

Restricted stock units granted to non-employee directors generally vest over a period of three years after the grant date and will be settled in Comerica Common Stock on the later of the first anniversary of the director's separation from service on the Board and three years after the grant date.

The table below illustrates the compensation structure for non-employee directors in 2018. Employee directors receive no compensation for their Board service. In addition to the compensation described below, each director is reimbursed for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred for travel and attendance related to meetings of the Board of Directors or its committees.