

COMERICA INC /NEW/
Form 424B5
September 13, 2010
Table of Contents

**Filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)
Registration No. 333-163220**

The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell these securities and we are not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Prospectus Supplement (Subject to completion, dated September 13, 2010)

(To Prospectus dated March 8, 2010)

\$

Comerica Incorporated

% Senior Notes due

We will pay interest on the notes at an annual rate equal to % and will pay interest on and of each year, beginning on , 2011. The notes will mature on , .

The notes are not redeemable prior to maturity. There is no sinking fund for the notes.

The notes will be our senior unsecured and unsubordinated obligations and will rank equally among themselves and with all of our other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness. The notes will not be guaranteed by any of our subsidiaries.

The notes will be issued only in registered book-entry form, in minimum denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

The notes will not be listed on any securities exchange. Currently there is no public market for the notes.

The notes are not deposits or other obligations of a bank or savings association and are not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency. **The notes are not guaranteed under the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's Temporary Liquidity Guarantee Program.**

Investing in the notes involves risks. See Risk factors beginning on page S-8 to read about factors you should consider before buying the notes.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Per Note	Total
Public offering price(1)	%	\$
Underwriting discount and commissions	%	\$

Proceeds to Comerica (before expenses)(1)	%	\$
---	---	----

(1) Plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, from September , 2010.

The underwriters expect to deliver the notes in book-entry form only through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company and its participants, including Clearstream and the Euroclear System, against payment in New York, New York on or about September , 2010.

Joint Book-Running Managers

BofA Merrill Lynch

September , 2010

J.P. Morgan

Table of Contents

You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized any other person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer to sell the notes in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information appearing in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein is accurate only as of their respective dates. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

Table of contents

	Page
Prospectus supplement	
<u>About this prospectus supplement</u>	S-ii
<u>Where you can find more information</u>	S-ii
<u>Cautionary statement regarding forward-looking statements</u>	S-iii
<u>Summary</u>	S-1
<u>Risk factors</u>	S-8
<u>Use of proceeds</u>	S-11
<u>Capitalization</u>	S-12
<u>Description of the notes</u>	S-13
<u>Certain United States federal income tax consequences</u>	S-18
<u>Certain ERISA considerations</u>	S-22
<u>Underwriting</u>	S-24
<u>Legal matters</u>	S-27
<u>Experts</u>	S-27
Prospectus	
<u>About this prospectus</u>	3
<u>Forward-looking statements</u>	3
<u>Comerica Incorporated</u>	4
<u>Comerica Capital Trust III</u>	4
<u>Use of proceeds</u>	6
<u>Consolidated ratios of earnings to fixed charges</u>	6
<u>Description of capital stock</u>	7
<u>Description of depositary shares</u>	13
<u>Description of debt securities</u>	16
<u>Description of the warrants to purchase common stock or preferred stock</u>	24
<u>Description of the warrants to purchase debt securities</u>	26
<u>Description of stock purchase contracts and stock purchase units</u>	27
<u>Description of capital securities and guarantees</u>	28
<u>Plan of distribution</u>	41
<u>ERISA considerations</u>	43
<u>Legal matters</u>	44
<u>Experts</u>	44
<u>Where you can find more information</u>	44

Table of Contents

About this prospectus supplement

This document consists of two parts. The first part is the prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of the offering. The second part is the prospectus, which describes more general information, some of which may not apply to the offering. You should read both this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, together with the additional information described under the heading "Where you can find more information" below.

All references in this prospectus supplement to Comerica, we, us, our or similar references mean Comerica Incorporated and its successors, and include our consolidated subsidiaries where the context so requires.

If the information set forth in this prospectus supplement differs in any way from the information set forth in the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information set forth in this prospectus supplement. If the information conflicts with any statement in a document which we have incorporated by reference, then you should only consider the statement in the more recent document.

Currency amounts in this prospectus supplement are stated in U.S. dollars.

Where you can find more information

We file annual, quarterly, and current reports, proxy statements, and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which we refer to in this document as the SEC. Our SEC filings are available to the public over the Internet at the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov> and on the investor relations page of our website at <http://www.comerica.com>. Except for those SEC filings incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, none of the other information on our website is part of this prospectus supplement. You may also read and copy any document we file with the SEC at its public reference facilities at 100 F Street N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You can also obtain copies of the documents upon the payment of a duplicating fee to the SEC. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the operation of the public reference facilities. These documents can also be inspected at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

The SEC's rules allow us to incorporate by reference information into this prospectus supplement. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be a part of this prospectus supplement. Any information incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement that we file with the SEC after the date of this prospectus supplement will automatically update and supersede information contained in this prospectus supplement. Our SEC file number is 001-10706.

We are incorporating by reference in this prospectus supplement the documents listed below and any future filings that we make with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act) prior to the termination of this offering, excluding any portions of any such documents that are furnished but not filed for purposes of the Exchange Act:

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009 (including the portions of our Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, filed on March 19, 2010, incorporated by reference therein);

our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarterly periods ended March 31, 2010 and June 30, 2010; and

our Current Reports on Forms 8-K filed on January 8, 2010, January 28, 2010, March 12, 2010, March 17, 2010, April 29, 2010, May 3, 2010, May 12, 2010, July 8, 2010, August 9, 2010 and August 12, 2010.

Table of Contents

Upon written or oral request, we will provide at no cost to the requester a copy of any or all of the information that has been incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement but not delivered with the prospectus supplement. You may request a copy of these filings, other than exhibits unless that exhibit is specifically incorporated by reference into that filing, at no cost, by writing or telephoning Comerica at the following address:

Investor Relations

Comerica Incorporated

Comerica Bank Tower

1717 Main Street

Dallas, Texas 75201

Telephone number: (214) 462-6831

You should rely only on the information incorporated by reference or provided in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you with different information. We are not making an offer of the notes in any state where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus or any document incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the date of the applicable document.

Our principal executive office is located at Comerica Bank Tower, 1717 Main Street, Dallas, Texas 75201 (telephone number (214) 462-6831).

Cautionary statement regarding forward-looking statements

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus include forward-looking statements as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Any statements in this report that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Words such as anticipates, believes, feels, expects, estimates, seeks, strives, plans, intends, outlook, forecast, positive, assume, achievable, potential, strategy, goal, aspiration, outcome, continue, remain, maintain, trend, objective and various similar expressions, or future or conditional verbs such as will, would, should, could, might, can, may or similar expressions, as they relate to Comerica or its management, are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are predicated on the beliefs and assumptions of Comerica's management based on information known to Comerica's management as of the date such statements were made and do not purport to speak as of any other date. Forward-looking statements may include descriptions of plans and objectives of Comerica's management for future or past operations, products or services, and forecasts of Comerica's revenue, earnings or other measures of economic performance, including statements of profitability, business segments and subsidiaries and estimates of credit trends and global stability. Such statements reflect the view of Comerica's management as of this date with respect to future events and are subject to risks and uncertainties. Should one or more of these risks materialize or should underlying beliefs or assumptions prove incorrect, Comerica's actual results could differ materially from those discussed. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences are further economic downturns, changes in the pace of an economic recovery and related changes in employment levels, changes in real estate values, fuel prices, energy costs or other events that could affect customer income levels or general economic conditions, the effects of recently enacted legislation, actions taken by or proposed by the United States Department of Treasury, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Texas Department of Banking and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (the FDIC), legislation or regulations enacted in the future, and the impact and expiration of such legislation and regulatory actions, the effects of war and other armed conflicts or acts of terrorism, the effects of natural disasters including, but not limited to, hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, fires, droughts and floods, the disruption of private or public utilities, the implementation of Comerica's strategies and business models, management's ability to maintain and expand customer relationships, changes in customer borrowing, repayment, investment and deposit

Table of Contents

practices, management's ability to retain key officers and employees, changes in the accounting treatment of any particular item, the impact of regulatory examinations, declines or other changes in the businesses or industries in which Comerica has a concentration of loans, including, but not limited to, the automotive production industry and the real estate business lines, the anticipated performance of any new banking centers, the entry of new competitors in Comerica's markets, changes in the level of fee income, changes in applicable laws and regulations, including those concerning taxes, banking, securities and insurance, changes in trade, monetary and fiscal policies, including the interest rate policies of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, fluctuations in inflation or interest rates, changes in general economic, political or industry conditions and related credit and market conditions, the interdependence of financial service companies and adverse conditions in the stock market. Comerica cautions that the foregoing list of factors is not exclusive. For discussion of factors that may cause actual results to differ from expectations, please refer to Comerica's filings with the SEC. In particular, please refer to Item 1A. Risk Factors beginning on page 11 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009, Item 1A. Risk Factors beginning on page 67 of our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2010 and Item 1A. Risk Factors beginning on page 71 of our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2010. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made. Comerica does not undertake to update forward-looking statements to reflect facts, circumstances, assumptions or events that occur after the date the forward-looking statements are made. For any forward-looking statements made in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or the documents incorporated by reference, Comerica claims the protection of the safe harbor for forward-looking statements contained in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

Table of Contents

Summary

The following summary should be read together with the information contained in other parts of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. This summary highlights selected information from this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus to help you understand the offering of the notes. You should read this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including the documents we incorporate by reference, carefully to understand fully the terms of the notes as well as the other considerations that are important to you in making a decision about whether to invest in the notes. You should pay special attention to the Risk factors section beginning on page S-8 of this prospectus supplement and the information set forth under the caption Risk Factors in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 and in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarterly periods ended March 31, 2010 and June 30, 2010 and the other documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement, before you determine whether an investment in the notes is appropriate for you.

About Comerica Incorporated

Comerica is a financial services company incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware and headquartered in Dallas, Texas. As of June 30, 2010, it was among the 25 largest commercial bank holding companies in the United States. Comerica was formed in 1973 to acquire the outstanding common stock of Comerica Bank, which at such time was a Michigan banking corporation and one of Michigan's oldest banks (formerly Comerica Bank-Detroit). On October 31, 2007, Comerica Bank, a Michigan banking corporation, was merged with and into Comerica Bank, a Texas banking association (Comerica Bank). As of June 30, 2010, Comerica owned directly or indirectly all the outstanding common stock of two active banking subsidiaries and 44 nonbanking subsidiaries. At June 30, 2010, Comerica had total assets of approximately \$55.9 billion, total deposits of approximately \$39.8 billion, total loans of approximately \$40.6 billion and shareholders' equity of approximately \$5.8 billion.

Comerica has strategically aligned its operations into three major business segments (the Business Bank, the Retail Bank, and Wealth & Institutional Management) across four primary geographic markets (the Midwest (Michigan, Ohio and Illinois), Western (California, Arizona, Nevada, Colorado and Washington), Texas and Florida markets). In addition to the three major business segments, the Finance Division is also reported as a segment.

The Business Bank is primarily comprised of the following businesses: Middle Market, Commercial Real Estate, National Dealer Services, International Finance, Global Corporate, Leasing, Financial Services, and Technology and Life Sciences. This business segment meets the needs of medium-size businesses, multinational corporations and governmental entities by offering various products and services, including commercial loans and lines of credit, deposits, cash management, capital market products, international trade finance, letters of credit, foreign exchange management services and loan syndication services.

The Retail Bank includes small business banking and personal financial services, consisting of consumer lending, consumer deposit gathering and mortgage loan origination. In addition to a full range of financial services provided to small business customers, this business segment offers a variety of consumer products, including deposit accounts, installment loans, credit cards, student loans, home equity lines of credit and residential mortgage loans.

Wealth & Institutional Management offers products and services consisting of fiduciary services, private banking, retirement services, investment management and advisory services, investment banking and discount securities brokerage services. This business segment also offers the sale of annuity products, as well as life, disability and long-term care insurance products.

Table of Contents

The Finance segment includes Comerica's securities portfolio and asset and liability management activities. This segment is responsible for managing Comerica's funding, liquidity and capital needs, performing interest sensitivity analysis and executing various strategies to manage Comerica's exposure to liquidity, interest rate risk and foreign exchange risk.

Comerica has two active banking subsidiaries, Comerica Bank and Comerica Bank & Trust, National Association. Comerica has consolidated most of its banking business into Comerica Bank, which is chartered by the State of Texas, and at the state level is supervised and regulated by the Texas Department of Banking. Comerica Bank is a member of the Federal Reserve System and supervised and regulated by the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, and has branches in Texas, Michigan, California, Florida and Arizona. Comerica Bank & Trust, National Association is chartered under federal law and is subject to supervision and regulation by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. Comerica Bank & Trust, National Association is also a member of the Federal Reserve System. The deposits of Comerica Bank and Comerica Bank & Trust, National Association are insured by the Deposit Insurance Fund of the FDIC to the extent provided by law. Comerica is a bank holding company under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended, and has elected to become a financial holding company under the provisions of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act. Accordingly, Comerica is subject to supervision and regulation at the federal level by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

Comerica's principal executive office is located at Comerica Bank Tower, 1717 Main Street, Dallas, Texas 75201, and its telephone number is (214) 462-6831.

Recent developments

On September 1, 2010, Comerica Incorporated announced that on October 1, 2010, its subsidiary, Comerica Capital Trust II, will fully redeem all \$500 million of 6.576% trust preferred securities (the Trust Preferred Securities) at par, plus accrued and unpaid distributions to the redemption date.

In connection with this redemption, Comerica expects to incur a one-time, pre-tax charge of approximately \$4.7 million in the fourth quarter, reflecting the accelerated accretion of the remaining original issuance discount.

On August 26, 2010, Comerica prepaid, without penalty, approximately \$2 billion in Federal Home Loan Bank advances.

Table of Contents**The offering**

The following summary contains basic information about the notes and is not intended to be complete. It does not contain all the information that is important to you. For a more complete understanding of the notes, you should read the section of this prospectus supplement entitled "Description of the notes" and the section in the accompanying prospectus entitled "Description of debt securities."

Issuer	Comerica Incorporated, a Delaware corporation.
Securities offered	\$ _____ aggregate principal amount of _____ % Senior Notes due _____ (the "notes").
Issue date	_____, 2010.
Maturity	_____, _____.
Interest	We will pay interest on the notes at the rate of _____ % per year payable in cash on _____ and _____ of each year, beginning on _____, 2011.
Ranking	The notes will be our senior unsecured and unsubordinated obligations and will rank equally with all of our other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness, and will be effectively subordinated to our existing and future secured indebtedness to the extent of the value of the collateral securing such indebtedness and structurally subordinated to the existing and future indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries. As of June 30, 2010, our subsidiaries had, in the aggregate, outstanding debt and other liabilities, including deposits, of approximately \$49.0 billion. All of such debt and other liabilities would rank structurally senior to the notes in case of liquidation or otherwise. As of June 30, 2010, Comerica Incorporated (parent company only) had an aggregate of approximately \$150 million of outstanding senior debt and approximately \$849 million of outstanding subordinated and junior subordinated debt.
The indenture does not limit the amount of additional indebtedness we or our subsidiaries may incur.	
Redemption	We may not redeem the notes prior to maturity.
No guarantees	The notes are not guaranteed by any of our subsidiaries. As a result, the notes will be structurally subordinated to the indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries as discussed above under "Ranking." The notes are not guaranteed under the FDIC's Temporary Liquidity Guarantee Program.
Further issuance	We may from time to time, without notice to or the consent of the holders of the notes, create and issue additional debt securities having the same terms as and ranking equally and ratably with the notes in all respects, as described under "Description of the notes General."

Table of Contents

Use of proceeds	We expect to receive net proceeds from this offering of approximately \$ million after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated expenses payable by us. We intend to use a portion of the proceeds, along with cash on hand, to redeem our Trust Preferred Securities and any remaining proceeds will be used for general corporate purposes. See the section entitled Use of proceeds.
Listing	The notes will not be listed on any securities exchange.
Trustee	The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as successor to The Bank of New York Mellon.

Table of Contents**Summary selected consolidated financial information**

The following table presents summary selected consolidated financial and other data as of and for the periods presented. The selected historical financial data as of December 31, 2009 and 2008 and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2009 are derived from our audited consolidated financial statements and related notes, which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. The selected historical financial data for prior years is derived from our audited consolidated financial statements which are not incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus. The selected historical data as of June 30, 2010 and 2009 and for the six-month period ended June 30, 2010 and 2009 are derived from our unaudited consolidated financial statements and related notes, which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Such unaudited financial statements have been prepared on the same basis as our annual consolidated financial statements and include all adjustments, consisting of only normal recurring adjustments, necessary for the fair presentation of the data in all material respects. The results for any interim period are not necessarily indicative of the results of operations to be expected for a full fiscal year.

	As of or for the six months ended June 30,		As of or for the year ended December 31,				
	2010	2009	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(in millions, except per share amounts)							
Earnings Summary:							
Net interest income	\$ 837	\$ 786	\$ 1,567	\$ 1,815	\$ 2,003	\$ 1,983	\$ 1,956
Provision for loan losses	301	515	1,082	686	212	37	(47)
Noninterest income	388	521	1,050	893	888	855	819
Noninterest expenses	801	826	1,650	1,751	1,691	1,674	1,613
Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes	123	(34)	(115)	271	988	1,127	1,209
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	18	(60)	(131)	59	306	345	393
Net income from continuing operations	105	26	16	212	682	782	816
Income from discontinued operations, net of tax	17	1	1	1	4	111	45
Net income	122	27	17	213	686	893	861
Preferred stock dividends	123	67	134	17			
Income allocated to participating securities			1	4	6	7	3
Net income (loss) attributable to common shares	(1)	(40)	(118)	192	680	886	858
Per Share of Common Stock:							
Basic net income (loss)	\$ (0.01)	\$ (0.27)	\$ (0.79)	\$ 1.29	\$ 4.45	\$ 5.53	\$ 5.15
Diluted net income (loss)	(0.01)	(0.27)	(0.79)	1.28	4.43	5.49	5.11
Cash dividends declared	0.10	0.10	0.20	2.31	2.56	2.36	2.20
Common shareholders' equity	32.85	32.78	32.27	33.38	34.12	32.70	31.11
Market value (at period end)	36.83	21.15	29.57	19.85	43.53	58.68	56.76
Average basic shares	165	149	149	149	153	160	167
Average diluted shares	165	149	149	149	154	161	168
Period-End Balances:							
Total assets	\$ 55,885	\$ 63,630	\$ 59,249	\$ 67,548	\$ 62,331	\$ 58,001	\$ 53,013
Investment securities available-for-sale	7,188	7,757	7,416	9,201	6,296	3,662	4,240
Total loans	40,602	46,552	42,161	50,505	50,743	47,431	43,247
Total earning assets	51,333	58,630	54,558	62,374	57,448	54,052	48,646
Total deposits	39,780	40,991	39,665	41,955	44,278	44,927	42,431
Total medium- and long-term debt	9,041	13,571	11,060	15,053	8,821	5,949	3,961
Total common shareholders' equity	5,792	4,953	4,878	5,023	5,117	5,153	5,068
Total shareholders' equity	5,792	7,093	7,029	7,152	5,117	5,153	5,068
Average Balances:							
Total assets	\$ 56,885	\$ 65,490	\$ 62,809	\$ 65,185	\$ 58,574	\$ 56,579	\$ 52,506
Investment securities available-for-sale	7,322	9,956	9,388	8,101	4,447	3,992	3,861
Total loans	40,990	48,596	46,162	51,765	49,821	47,750	43,816

Edgar Filing: COMERICA INC /NEW/ - Form 424B5

Total earning assets	52,385	60,631	58,162	60,422	54,688	52,291	48,232
Total deposits	39,125	40,782	40,091	42,003	41,934	42,074	40,640
Total medium- and long-term debt	10,169	14,461	13,334	12,457	8,197	5,407	4,186
Total common shareholders equity	5,391	5,020	4,959	5,166	5,070	5,176	5,097
Total shareholders equity	6,283	7,154	7,099	5,442	5,070	5,176	5,097

S-5

Table of Contents

	As of or for the six months ended June 30,		As of or for the year ended December 31,				
	2010	2009	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(in millions, except per share amounts)							
Credit Quality:							
Total allowance for credit losses	\$ 1,011	\$ 1,031	\$ 1,022	\$ 808	\$ 578	\$ 519	\$ 549
Total nonperforming loans	1,121	1,130	1,181	917	404	214	138
Foreclosed property	93	100	111	66	19	18	24
Total nonperforming assets	1,214	1,230	1,292	983	423	232	162
Net credit-related charge-offs	319	405	869	472	153	72	116
Nonperforming assets as a percentage of total loans and foreclosed property	2.98%	2.64%	3.06%	1.94%	0.83%	0.49%	0.37%
Net credit-related charge-offs as a percentage of average total loans	1.56%	1.67%	1.88%	0.91%	0.31%	0.15%	0.26%
Allowance for loan losses as a percentage of total period-end loans	2.38%	1.89%	2.34%	1.52%	1.10%	1.04%	1.19%
Allowance for loan losses as a percentage of total nonperforming loans	86%	78%	83%	84%	138%	231%	373%
Ratios:							
Net interest margin	3.23%	2.63%	2.72%	3.02%	3.66%	3.79%	4.06%
Return on average assets	0.43%	0.08%	0.03%	0.33%	1.17%	1.58%	1.64%
Return on average common shareholders' equity	(0.05)%	(1.58)%	(2.37)%	3.79%	13.52%	17.24%	16.90%
Dividend payout ratio	N/M	N/M	N/M	179.07%	57.79%	42.99%	43.05%
Average common shareholders' equity as a percentage of average assets	9.48%	7.67%	7.90%	7.93%	8.66%	9.15%	9.71%
Tier 1 common capital as a percentage of risk-weighted assets	9.81%	7.66%	8.18%	7.08%	6.85%	7.54%	7.78%
Tier 1 capital as a percentage of risk-weighted assets	10.64%	11.58%	12.46%	10.66%	7.51%	8.03%	8.38%
Tangible common equity as a percentage of tangible assets	10.11%	7.55%	7.99%	7.21%	7.97%	8.62%	9.16%

N/M Not Meaningful

Table of Contents**Consolidated ratio of earnings to fixed charges**

Our consolidated ratio of earnings to fixed charges for each of the five fiscal years ended December 31, 2009 and the six months ended June 30, 2010 are as follows:

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2010	2009	Year Ended December 31,			
			2008	2007	2006	2005
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges:						
Excluding interest on deposits	2.92x	(a)	1.51x	2.70x	3.57x	6.10x
Including interest on deposits	1.95x	(a)	1.21x	1.57x	1.80x	2.55x

(a) For the year ended December 31, 2009, earnings were insufficient to cover combined fixed charges, excluding or including interest on deposits, by \$115,000,000.

For purposes of computing the ratios of earnings to fixed charges, earnings represent income before income taxes, interest on tax liabilities, and fixed charges. Fixed charges, excluding interest on deposits, include interest (other than on deposits and on tax liabilities), whether expensed or capitalized, and that portion of rental expense (generally one-third) deemed representative of the interest factor. Fixed charges, including interest on deposits, consist of the foregoing items plus interest on deposits.

Table of Contents

Risk factors

Investing in the notes involves risks, including the risks described below that are specific to the notes and those that could affect us and our business. You should not purchase notes unless you understand these investment risks. Please be aware that other risks may prove to be important in the future. New risks may emerge at any time, and we cannot predict such risks or estimate the extent to which they may affect our financial performance. Before purchasing any notes, you should carefully consider the following discussion of risks and the other information in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, and carefully read the risks described in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, including those set forth under the caption "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 and our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarterly periods ended March 31, 2010 and June 30, 2010.

The notes are our obligations and not obligations of our subsidiaries and will be structurally subordinated to the claims of our subsidiaries' creditors.

The notes are exclusively our obligations and not those of our subsidiaries. We are a holding company that conducts substantially all of our operations through our bank and non-bank subsidiaries. As a result, our ability to make payments on the notes will depend primarily upon the receipt of dividends and other distributions from our subsidiaries. If we do not receive sufficient cash dividends and other distributions from our subsidiaries, it is unlikely that we will have sufficient funds to make payments on the notes.

Our subsidiaries are separate and distinct legal entities. Our subsidiaries have no obligation to pay any amounts due on the notes or to provide us with funds to pay our obligations, whether by dividends, distributions, loans or other payments. In addition, any dividend payments, distributions, loans or advances to us by our subsidiaries in the future will require the generation of future earnings by our subsidiaries and may require regulatory approval. Regulations of both the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Texas Department of Banking affect the ability of Comerica Bank to pay dividends and other distributions to us and to make loans to us. If Comerica Bank is unable to make dividend payments to us and sufficient capital is not otherwise available, we may not be able to make principal and interest payments on our debt, including the notes.

In addition, our right to participate in any distribution of assets of any of our subsidiaries upon the subsidiary's liquidation or otherwise, and thus your ability as a holder of the notes to benefit indirectly from such distribution, will be subject to the prior claims of creditors of that subsidiary (including, in the case of Comerica Bank, its depositors), except to the extent that we are a creditor of such subsidiary with claims that are recognized. As a result, the notes effectively will be subordinated to all existing and future liabilities and obligations of our subsidiaries, including deposit liabilities. At June 30, 2010, the aggregate amount of all debt and other liabilities of our consolidated subsidiaries, including deposits, that would structurally rank senior to the notes was approximately \$49.0 billion. Our subsidiaries may incur additional debt and liabilities in the future, all of which would rank structurally senior to the notes.

The notes will be effectively junior to all of our secured indebtedness.

The notes will be effectively subordinated to any of the existing and future secured debt we may incur, to the extent of the value of the assets securing such debt. In the event that we are declared bankrupt, become insolvent or are liquidated or reorganized, any debt that ranks ahead of the notes will be entitled to be paid in full from our assets before any payment may be made with respect to the notes. Holders of the notes will participate ratably with all holders of our unsecured indebtedness that is deemed to be of the same ranking as the notes, and potentially with all of our other general creditors, based upon the respective amounts owed to each holder or creditor, in our remaining assets. In any of the foregoing events, we may not have sufficient assets to pay amounts due on the notes. As a result, if holders of the notes receive any payments, they may receive less, ratably, than holders of secured indebtedness.

Table of Contents

There are limited covenants in the indenture.

Neither we nor any of our subsidiaries is restricted from incurring additional debt or other liabilities, including additional senior debt, under the indenture. If we incur additional debt or liabilities, our ability to pay our obligations on the notes could be adversely affected. We expect to incur, from time to time, additional debt and other liabilities. In addition, we are not restricted under the indenture from granting security interests over our assets, or from paying dividends or issuing or repurchasing our securities.

In addition, the indenture and the notes do not contain, among other things, provisions which would afford holders of the notes protection in the event of a recapitalization transaction, a change of control of Comerica or a highly leveraged transaction involving Comerica which could adversely affect the holders of the notes, except to the extent described under "Description of debt securities—Consolidations, Mergers and Sales of Assets" included in the accompanying prospectus.

The notes are not insured or guaranteed by the FDIC.

The notes are not deposits or other obligations of a bank or savings association and are not insured or guaranteed by the FDIC or any other governmental agency. In addition, the notes are not guaranteed under the FDIC's Temporary Liquidity Guarantee Program.

You may be unable to sell the notes because there is no public trading market for the notes.

The notes are a new issue of securities with no established trading market. The notes will not be listed on any securities exchange or included in any automated quotation system. Consequently, the notes will be relatively illiquid and you may be unable to sell your notes. Although the representatives of the underwriters have advised us that, following completion of the offering of the notes, one or more of the underwriters currently intend to make a secondary market in the notes, they are not obligated to do so and may discontinue any market-making activities at any time without notice. Accordingly, a trading market for the notes may not develop or any such market may not have sufficient liquidity.

The price at which you will be able to sell your notes prior to maturity will depend on a number of factors and may be substantially less than the amount you originally invest.

We believe that the value of the notes in any secondary market will be affected by the supply and demand of the notes, prevailing interest rates and a number of other factors. Some of these factors are interrelated in complex ways. As a result, the effect of any one factor may be offset or magnified by the effect of another factor. The following paragraphs describe what we expect to be the impact on the market value of the notes of a change in a specific factor, assuming all other conditions remain constant.

United States interest rates. We expect that the market value of the notes will be affected by changes in United States interest rates. In general, if United States interest rates increase, the market value of the notes may decrease.

Our credit rating, financial condition and results. Actual or anticipated changes in our credit ratings or financial condition may affect the market value of the notes. In general, if our credit ratings or financial condition change adversely, the market value of the notes may decrease.

We want you to understand that the impact of one of the factors above, such as an increase in United States interest rates, may offset some or all of any change in the market value of the notes attributable to another factor, such as an improvement in our credit rating.

Table of Contents

Our credit ratings are reviewed periodically and we could be subject to downgrades in the future.

Our credit ratings are an important factor in determining the cost and availability of short- and long-term funding, as well as collateral requirements for certain derivative instruments. In general, rating agencies base their ratings on many quantitative and qualitative factors, including capital adequacy, liquidity, asset quality, business mix and level and quality of earnings and the current legislative and regulatory environment, including implied government support, and there can be no assurance that we will maintain our current credit ratings. In addition, ratings agencies are required to make substantial changes to their ratings policies and practices as a result of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. There can be no assurance that such changes will not affect ratings of our securities or of securities in which we have an economic interest. Any decrease, or potential decrease, in credit ratings could impact access to the capital markets and/or increase the cost of debt, and thereby adversely affect liquidity and financial condition.

Our credit ratings may not reflect all risks of an investment in the notes.

The credit ratings assigned to the notes may not reflect the potential impact of all risks related to structure and other factors on any trading market, if any, for, or trading value of, your notes. In addition, real or anticipated changes in our credit ratings will generally affect any trading market, if any, for, or trading value of, your notes. Accordingly, you should consult your own financial and legal advisors as to the risks entailed by an investment in the notes and the suitability of investing in the notes in light of your particular circumstances.

Table of Contents

Use of proceeds

We expect to receive net proceeds from this offering of approximately \$ _____ million after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated expenses payable by us. We intend to use a portion of the proceeds, along with cash on hand, to redeem our Trust Preferred Securities, and any remaining proceeds will be used for general corporate purposes.

S-11

Table of Contents**Capitalization**

The following table sets forth our consolidated capitalization as of June 30, 2010, on an actual basis, on a pro forma basis giving effect to the estimated net proceeds of \$ million from the notes offered hereby and as further adjusted to give effect to the redemption of the Trust Preferred Securities. The table should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements incorporated herein by reference.

	As of June 30, 2010		
	Actual	As Adjusted For Notes Issuance (Unaudited, dollars in millions)	As Adjusted for Notes Issuance and Trust Preferred Redemption
Medium- and long-term debt			
Senior notes offered hereby	\$	\$	\$
Other medium- and long-term debt	9,041	9,041	8,530
Total medium and long-term debt	\$ 9,041	\$	\$
Equity			
Common stock, \$5 par value	\$ 1,019	\$ 1,019	\$ 1,019
Capital surplus	1,467	1,467	1,467
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	(240)	(240)	(240)
Retained earnings	5,124	5,124	5,121
Less cost of common stock in treasury	(1,578)	(1,578)	(1,578)
Total equity	\$ 5,792	\$ 5,792	\$ 5,789
Total capitalization	\$ 14,833	\$	\$

The following table sets forth our capital ratios as of June 30, 2010, on an actual basis, on a pro forma basis giving effect to the estimated net proceeds of \$ million from the notes offered hereby and as further adjusted to give effect to the redemption of the Trust Preferred Securities, and as of December 31, 2009 on an actual basis. The table should be read in conjunction with the financial statements incorporated herein by reference.

Capital ratios	As of June 30, 2010			As of December 31, 2009
	Actual	As Adjusted For Notes Issuance	As Adjusted for Notes Issuance and Trust Preferred Redemption	Actual
Tier 1 capital	10.64%	10.64%	9.81%	12.46%
Total risk-based capital	15.03%	15.03%	14.20%	16.93%
Tier 1 leverage	11.36%	11.36%	10.48%	13.25%

Note:

Edgar Filing: COMERICA INC /NEW/ - Form 424B5

Capital ratios are calculated in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council and the instructions to the Call Reports and FR-Y-9 Reports.

S-12

Table of Contents

Description of the notes

The notes will be issued under an indenture dated as of July 15, 2007, between us and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as successor to The Bank of New York Mellon, as trustee. By its terms the indenture incorporates certain provisions of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939. We urge you to read the indenture because it, and not this description, defines your rights as a holder of the notes. The following describes the general terms and provisions of the notes. The accompanying prospectus provides a more complete description of the indenture. The notes will be senior debt securities, as such term is used in the accompanying prospectus. The following description of the particular terms of the notes supplements, and to the extent inconsistent therewith replaces, the description of the general terms and provisions of the senior debt securities in the accompanying prospectus, to which reference is made. These descriptions are not complete, and are qualified in their entirety by reference to, all the provisions of the indenture.

References to Comerica, the Company, we, us and our in this section are only to Comerica Incorporated and not to its subsidiaries.

General

The notes will mature on _____, _____.

The notes will be unsecured obligations of Comerica and will rank equally with all of our other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness. The notes will rank senior in right of payment to our subordinated indebtedness. The notes will not be guaranteed by any of our subsidiaries. The notes are not deposits or other obligations of a bank or savings association and are not insured or guaranteed by the FDIC or any other governmental agency. In addition, the notes are not guaranteed under the FDIC's Temporary Liquidity Guarantee Program.

We are a holding company, and most of our revenues result from dividends from our bank subsidiaries. As a result, our ability to make payments on the notes will depend primarily upon the receipt of dividends and other distributions from our subsidiaries. There are various regulatory restrictions on the ability of Comerica Bank to pay dividends or make other payments to us. See Supervision and Regulation Dividends in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009.

In addition, our subsidiaries are legal entities separate and distinct from the Company. Our subsidiaries may, without notice or consent of the holders of the notes, incur additional debt and liabilities in the future, all of which would rank structurally senior to the notes. Our right to participate in any distribution of assets of any of our subsidiaries upon the subsidiary's liquidation or otherwise, and thus your ability as a holder of the notes to benefit indirectly from such distribution, will be subject to the prior claims of creditors of that subsidiary (including, in the case of our bank subsidiaries, their depositors), except to the extent that we are a creditor of such subsidiary with claims that are recognized. As a result, the notes effectively will be subordinated to all existing and future liabilities and obligations of our subsidiaries, including deposit liabilities. As of June 30, 2010, our subsidiaries had, in the aggregate, outstanding debt and other liabilities, including deposits, of approximately \$49.0 billion. All of such debt and other liabilities would rank structurally senior to the notes in case of liquidation or otherwise. As of June 30, 2010, Comerica Incorporated (parent company only) had an aggregate of approximately \$150 million of outstanding senior debt and approximately \$849 million of outstanding subordinated and junior subordinated debt.

The indenture does not limit the amount of notes, debentures or other evidences of indebtedness that we may issue under the indenture or otherwise and provides that notes, debentures or other evidences of indebtedness may be issued from time to time in one or more series. We may from time to time, without giving notice to or seeking the consent of the holders of the notes, issue notes having the same ranking and the same interest rate, maturity and other terms as the notes issued in this offering. Any additional securities having such similar terms, together with the applicable notes, may constitute a single series of securities under the indenture.

Table of Contents

Principal and interest will be payable, and the notes will be transferable or exchangeable, at the office or offices or agency maintained by us for these purposes. Payment of interest on the notes may be made at our option by check mailed to the registered holders.

The notes will be issued only in fully registered form without coupons and in denominations of \$2,000 or any whole multiple of \$1,000 in excess thereof. No service charge will be made for any transfer or exchange of the notes, but we may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection with a transfer or exchange.

The notes will be represented by one or more global securities registered in the name of a nominee of The Depository Trust Company. Except as described below under "Description of the notes - Book-entry; delivery and form," the notes will not be issuable in certificated form.

The notes are subject to the defeasance provisions explained in the accompanying prospectus under "Description of debt securities - Discharge, Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance."

The notes will not be convertible into Comerica common or preferred stock or exchangeable for any other securities, whether or not issued by Comerica.

Interest

The notes will bear interest at the rate of % per annum. Interest on the notes will accrue from and including , 2010 and will be payable semi-annually on and of each year (each an interest payment date), commencing on , 2011. Interest will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months.

If an interest payment date or the maturity date for the notes falls on a day that is not a business day, Comerica will postpone the interest payment or the payment of principal and interest at maturity to the next succeeding business day, but the payments made on such dates will be treated as being made on the date that the payment was first due and the holders of the notes will not be entitled to any further interest or other payments with respect to such postponements.

When we use the term "business day," we mean any day except a Saturday, a Sunday or a day in the City of New York on which banking institutions are authorized or obligated by law or executive order to close. The interest payable on the notes on any interest payment date, subject to certain exceptions, will be paid to the person in whose name the notes are registered at the close of business on the or , whether or not a business day, immediately preceding the next interest payment date.

No Redemption

The notes will not be redeemable prior to maturity.

Sinking fund

The notes will not be entitled to any sinking fund.

Book-entry; delivery and form

The Global Notes

The notes will be issued in the form of one or more registered notes in global form, without interest coupons. The global notes will be deposited on the issue date with The Depository Trust Company, or DTC, as depository, and registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC, for credit to an account of a direct or indirect participant in DTC (including the Euroclear System (Euroclear) or Clearstream Banking, S.A. (Clearstream)) or will remain in the custody of the trustee pursuant to the FAST Balance Certificate Agreement between DTC and the trustee.

Table of Contents

Except as described below, the global notes may be transferred in whole, and not in part, solely to another nominee of DTC or a successor to DTC or its nominee. All interests in the global notes may be subject to the procedures and requirements of DTC.

Certain book-entry procedures for the Global Notes

The descriptions of the operations and procedures of DTC described below are provided solely as a matter of convenience. These operations and procedures are solely within the control of DTC and are subject to change by them from time to time. We do not take any responsibility for these operations or procedures, and investors are urged to contact DTC or its participants directly to discuss these matters.

DTC has advised us that it is (1) a limited purpose trust company organized under the banking laws of the State of New York, (2) a banking organization within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, (3) a member of the Federal Reserve System, (4) a clearing corporation within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, as amended and (5) a clearing agency registered pursuant to Section 17A of the Exchange Act. DTC was created to hold securities for its participants and facilitates the clearance and settlement of securities transactions between participants through electronic book-entry changes to the accounts of its direct participants, thereby eliminating the need for physical transfer and delivery of certificates. DTC's participants include brokers and dealers, banks and trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations. Indirect access to DTC's system is also available to other entities such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies, referred to as indirect participants, that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a direct participant, either directly or indirectly. Investors who are not participants may beneficially own notes held by or on behalf of DTC only through direct participants or indirect participants.

Pursuant to procedures established by DTC, upon deposit of each of the global notes, DTC will credit the accounts of direct participants with an interest in the global notes. Ownership of the notes will be shown on, and the transfer of ownership of notes will be effected only through, records maintained by DTC, with respect to the interests of direct participants, and the records of direct participants and the indirect participants, with respect to the interests of persons other than direct participants.

Investors in the global notes may hold their interests therein directly through DTC, if they are participants in such system, or indirectly through organizations (including Euroclear and Clearstream) that are participants or indirect participants in such system. Euroclear and Clearstream will hold interests in the notes on behalf of their participants through customers' securities accounts in their respective names on the books of their respective depositaries, which are Euroclear Bank, S.A./N.V., as operator of Euroclear, and Citibank, N.A., as operator of Clearstream. The depositaries, in turn, will hold interests in the notes in customers' securities accounts in the depositaries' names on the books of DTC.

All interests in a global note, including those held through Euroclear or Clearstream, will be subject to the procedures and requirements of DTC. Those interests held through Euroclear or Clearstream will also be subject to the procedures and requirements of these systems.

The laws of some jurisdictions may require that some types of purchasers of notes take physical delivery of the notes in certificated form. Accordingly, the ability to transfer interests in the notes represented by a global note to these persons may be limited. In addition, because DTC can act only on behalf of its direct participants, who in turn act on behalf of themselves or persons who hold interests through participants, the ability of a person having an interest in notes represented by a global note to pledge or transfer the interest to persons or entities that do not participate in DTC's system, or to otherwise take actions in respect of the interest, may be affected by the lack of a physical certificated note in respect of the interest.

So long as DTC or its nominee is the registered owner of a global note, DTC or such nominee, as the case may be, will be considered the sole owner or holder of the interests represented by the global note for all purposes

Table of Contents

under the indenture. Except as provided below, owners of beneficial interests in a global note will not be entitled to have notes represented by the global note registered in their names, will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of certificated notes, and will not be considered the owners or holders of those notes under the indenture for any purpose, including with respect to the giving of any direction, instruction or approval to the trustee under the indenture. Accordingly, each holder owning a beneficial interest in a global note must rely on the procedures of DTC and, if the holder is not a participant or an indirect participant, on the procedures of the participant and any other intermediaries through which the holder owns its interest, to exercise any rights of a holder of notes under the indenture or the global note.

We understand that under existing industry practice, in the event that we request any action of holders of notes, or an owner of a beneficial interest in a global note desires to take any action that DTC, as the holder of such global note, is entitled to take, DTC would authorize the participants to take the action and the participants would authorize beneficial owners owning through the participants to take the action or would otherwise act upon the instruction of the beneficial owners. Neither we nor the trustee will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of notes by DTC, or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records of DTC relating to the notes. Payments with respect to the principal of, and premium, if any, liquidated damages, if any, and interest on, any notes represented by a global note registered in the name of DTC or its nominee on the applicable record date will be payable by the trustee to or at the direction of DTC or its nominee in its capacity as the registered holder of the global note representing the notes under the indenture. Under the terms of the indenture, we may treat, and the trustee may treat, the persons in whose names the notes, including the global notes, are registered as the owners of the notes for the purpose of receiving payment on the notes and for any and all other purposes whatsoever. Accordingly, neither we nor the trustee has or will have any responsibility or liability for the payment of these amounts to owners of beneficial interests in the global note, including principal, premium, if any, liquidated damages, if any, and interest.

Payments by the participants and the indirect participants to the owners of beneficial interests in the global notes will be governed by standing instructions and customary industry practice and will be the responsibility of the participants or the indirect participants.

Transfers between participants in DTC will be effected in accordance with DTC's procedures, and will be settled in same-day funds. Transfers between participants in Euroclear and Clearstream will be effected in accordance with their respective rules and operating procedures.

Cross-market transfers between participants in DTC, on the one hand, and Euroclear or Clearstream participants, on the other hand, will be effected through DTC in accordance with DTC's rules on behalf of Euroclear or Clearstream, as the case may be, by their depositaries. Crossmarket transactions will require delivery of instructions to Euroclear or Clearstream, as the case may be, by the counterparty in that system in accordance with the rules and procedures and within the established deadlines (Brussels time) of that system. Euroclear or Clearstream, as the case may be, will, if the transaction meets its settlement requirements, deliver instructions to its respective depositaries to take action to effect final settlement on its behalf by delivering or receiving interests in the relevant global note in DTC, and making or receiving payment in accordance with normal procedures for same-day funds settlement applicable to DTC. Euroclear and Clearstream participants may not deliver instructions directly to the depositaries for Euroclear or Clearstream.

Because of time zone differences, the securities account of a Euroclear or Clearstream participant purchasing an interest in a global note from a participant in DTC will be credited and reported to the relevant Euroclear or Clearstream participant, during the securities settlement processing day (which must be a business day for Euroclear and Clearstream) immediately following the settlement date of DTC. DTC has advised us that cash received in Euroclear or Clearstream as a result of sales of interests in a global note by or through a Euroclear or Clearstream participant to a participant in DTC will be received with value on the settlement date of DTC but will be available in the relevant Euroclear or Clearstream cash account only as of the business day for Euroclear or Clearstream following DTC's settlement date.

Table of Contents

None of DTC, Euroclear or Clearstream is under any obligation to perform or to continue to perform such procedures, and such procedures may be discontinued at any time. Neither we nor the trustee will have any responsibility for the performance by DTC, Euroclear or Clearstream or their respective participants or indirect participants of their respective obligations under the rules and procedures governing their operations.

Certificated notes

If (1) DTC notifies us that it is no longer willing or able to act as a depository or clearing system for the notes or DTC ceases to be registered or in good standing under the Exchange Act, and a successor depository or clearing system is not appointed within 90 days after we have received notice or become aware of this condition, (2) we, at our option, notify the trustee in writing that we elect to cause the issuance of notes in certificated form under the indenture or (3) upon the occurrence and continuation of an event of default under the indenture, then, upon surrender by DTC of the global notes, certificated notes will be issued to each person that DTC identifies as the owner of the notes represented by the global notes. Upon any such issuance, the trustee is required to register the certificated notes in the name of the person or persons or the nominee of any of these persons and cause the same to be delivered to these persons.

Neither we nor the trustee will be liable for any delay by DTC or any participant or indirect participant in identifying the beneficial owners of the related notes and each such person may conclusively rely on, and will be protected in relying on, instructions from DTC for all purposes, including with respect to the registration and delivery, and the respective principal amounts, of the certificated notes to be issued.

Notices

Any notices required to be given to the holders of the notes will be given to DTC.

Trustee

The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. will act as trustee for the notes. From time to time, we and some of our subsidiaries may maintain deposit accounts and conduct other banking transactions, including lending transactions, with the trustee in the ordinary course of business. Additionally, we maintain banking relationships with The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. and its affiliates in the ordinary course of business. These banking relationships include The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. and its affiliates serving as trustee under indentures involving our existing debt securities, serving as trustee of the Trust Preferred Securities and general banking services. Upon the occurrence of an event of default or an event which, after notice or lapse of time or both, would become an event of default under the notes, or upon the occurrence of a default under another indenture under which The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. serves as trustee, the trustee may be deemed to have a conflicting interest with respect to the other debt securities as to which we are not in default for purposes of the Trust Indenture Act and, accordingly, may be required to resign as trustee under the indenture. In that event, we would be required to appoint a successor trustee.

Governing law

The indenture and the notes are governed by and will be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York.

Table of Contents

Certain United States federal income tax consequences

The following is a summary of certain United States federal income tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of the notes by U.S. Holders (as defined below) and Non-U.S. Holders (as defined below), but does not purport to be a complete analysis of all potential tax considerations. This summary is based upon the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), the Treasury Regulations (the Regulations) promulgated thereunder, and administrative and judicial interpretations thereof, all as of the date hereof and all of which are subject to change, possibly on a retroactive basis. This summary is limited to the tax consequences with respect to notes that are purchased by an initial holder at their original issue price for cash and that are held as capital assets within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Code (generally, property held for investment). This summary does not address the tax consequences to subsequent purchasers of the notes. This summary assumes that the notes will be treated as debt instruments for United States federal income tax purposes. This summary does not purport to deal with all aspects of United States federal income taxation that might be relevant to particular holders in light of their circumstances or status, nor does it address specific tax consequences that may be relevant to particular holders (including, for example, financial institutions, broker-dealers, traders in securities that elect mark-to-market treatment, insurance companies, partnerships or other pass-through entities, United States expatriates, tax-exempt organizations, U.S. Holders that have a functional currency other than the United States dollar, or persons who hold notes as part of a straddle, hedge, conversion or other integrated financial transaction). In addition, this summary does not address tax consequences arising under the unearned income Medicare contribution tax pursuant to the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, nor does it address United States federal alternative minimum, estate and gift tax consequences or consequences under the tax laws of any state, local or foreign jurisdiction. We have not sought, and will not seek, any ruling from the Internal Revenue Service (the IRS) with respect to the statements made and the conclusions reached in this summary, and we cannot assure you that the IRS will agree with such statements and conclusions.

If a partnership holds notes, the tax treatment of a partner in the partnership generally will depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. If you are a partner in a partnership holding notes, you should consult your tax advisor.

THIS SUMMARY IS FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ONLY. PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS OF THE NOTES ARE URGED TO CONSULT THEIR OWN TAX ADVISORS CONCERNING THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION AND OTHER TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THEM OF ACQUIRING, OWNING AND DISPOSING OF THE NOTES, AS WELL AS THE APPLICATION OF STATE, LOCAL AND FOREIGN INCOME AND OTHER TAX LAWS.

For purposes of the following summary, a U.S. Holder is a beneficial owner of notes that is, for United States federal income tax purposes, (i) a citizen or individual resident of the United States; (ii) a corporation or other entity taxable as a corporation created or organized under the laws of the United States, any state thereof, or the District of Columbia; (iii) an estate, the income of which is subject to United States federal income tax regardless of its source; or (iv) a trust, if a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the trust's administration and one or more United States persons have the authority to control all of its substantial decisions or if a valid election to be treated as a United States person is in effect with respect to such trust. A Non-U.S. Holder is a beneficial owner of notes that is neither a U.S. Holder nor a partnership for United States federal income tax purposes.

United States federal income taxation of U.S. Holders

Payments of stated interest

It is expected and this discussion assumes that either the issue price of the notes will equal the stated redemption price of the notes or the notes will be issued with no more than a de minimis amount of original issue discount.

Table of Contents

Accordingly, stated interest on a note will generally be taxable to a U.S. Holder as ordinary income at the time such interest is received or accrued, depending on the holder's regular method of accounting for United States federal income tax purposes.

Disposition of the notes

Upon the sale, exchange or other taxable disposition of a note, a U.S. Holder will generally recognize taxable gain or loss equal to the difference between (i) the sum of all cash plus the fair market value of all other property received on such disposition (except to the extent such cash or other property is attributable to accrued but unpaid interest, which is treated as interest as described above) and (ii) such holder's adjusted tax basis in the note. A U.S. Holder's adjusted tax basis in a note generally will equal the cost of the note to such holder. Any gain or loss recognized on the disposition of a note generally will be capital gain or loss, and will be long-term capital gain or loss if, at the time of such disposition, the U.S. Holder's holding period for the note is more than one year. Long-term capital gain of non-corporate U.S. Holders is generally taxed at preferential rates. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

Backup withholding and information reporting

For each calendar year in which the notes are outstanding, we generally are required to provide the IRS with certain information, including the beneficial owner's name, address and taxpayer identification number, the aggregate amount of interest paid to that beneficial owner during the calendar year and the amount of tax withheld, if any. This obligation, however, does not apply with respect to payments to certain types of U.S. Holders, including corporations and tax-exempt organizations, provided that they establish entitlement to an exemption.

In the event that a U.S. Holder subject to the reporting requirements described above fails to provide its correct taxpayer identification number in the manner required by applicable law, or underreports its tax liability, we, our agent or paying agents, or a broker may be required to backup withhold at the applicable rate (currently 28%) on each payment on the notes and on the proceeds from a sale of the notes. The backup withholding obligation, however, does not apply with respect to payments to certain types of U.S. Holders, including corporations with respect to payments made before December 31, 2011 and tax-exempt organizations, provided that they establish entitlement to an exemption.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax and may generally be refunded or credited against the U.S. Holder's United States federal income tax liability, provided that the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors regarding their qualifications for an exemption from backup withholding, and the procedure for establishing such exemption, if applicable.

United States federal income taxation of Non-U.S. Holders

Payments of interest

Subject to the discussion of backup withholding below, payments of interest on the notes to a Non-U.S. Holder will generally not be subject to United States federal withholding tax under the portfolio interest exemption, provided that:

1. such payments are not effectively connected with the conduct of a United States trade or business, or in the case of an income tax treaty resident, a United States permanent establishment (or, in the case of an individual, a fixed base) maintained by the Non-U.S. Holder in the United States;
2. the Non-U.S. Holder does not actually or constructively own 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of our stock entitled to vote;

Table of Contents

3. the Non-U.S. Holder is not a controlled foreign corporation that, for United States federal income tax purposes, is related (within the meaning of Section 864(d)(4) of the Code) to us;
4. the Non-U.S. Holder is not a bank described in Section 881(c)(3)(A) of the Code; and
5. either (a) the beneficial owner of the notes certifies on IRS Form W-8BEN (or a suitable substitute form or successor form), under penalties of perjury, that it is not a U.S. person (as defined in the Code) and provides its name and address, or (b) a securities clearing organization, bank or other financial institution that holds customers' securities in the ordinary course of its trade or business (a financial institution) and holds the notes on behalf of the beneficial owner certifies to us or our agent, under penalties of perjury, that a properly executed IRS Form W-8BEN (or a suitable substitute form or successor form) has been received from the beneficial owner by it or by a financial institution between it and the beneficial owner and furnishes us with a copy thereof.

If a Non-U.S. Holder cannot satisfy the requirements of the portfolio interest exemption, payments of interest made to such Non-U.S. Holder will be subject to a 30% United States federal withholding tax unless the beneficial owner of the note provides a properly executed:

1. IRS Form W-8BEN (or a suitable substitute form successor form) claiming, under penalties of perjury, an exemption from, or reduction in, withholding tax under an applicable income tax treaty, or
2. IRS Form W-8ECI (or successor form) stating that interest paid on the note is not subject to withholding tax because it is effectively connected with a United States trade or business or, if certain treaties apply, it is attributable to a permanent establishment or fixed base maintained in the United States of the beneficial owner (in which case such interest will be subject to regular graduated United States tax rates as described below).

Non-U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors about the specific methods for satisfying these requirements. A claim for exemption will not be valid if the person receiving the applicable form has actual knowledge or reason to know that the statements on the form are false.

If interest on the note is effectively connected with a United States trade or business of the beneficial owner (and if required by an applicable income tax treaty, attributable to a United States permanent establishment or fixed base), the Non-U.S. Holder, although exempt from the withholding tax described above, will be subject to United States federal income tax on such interest on a net income basis in the same manner as if it were a U.S. Holder. In addition, if such Non-U.S. Holder is a foreign corporation, it may be subject to a branch profits tax equal to 30% (unless reduced by an applicable income tax treaty) in respect of such interest.

Disposition of the notes

Non withholding of United States federal income tax will generally be required with respect to any gain or income realized by a Non-U.S. Holder upon the sale, exchange or other disposition of a note (except to the extent such income is attributable to accrued but unpaid interest, which will be treated as interest as described above under United States federal income taxation of Non-U.S. Holders Payments of interest).

Except with respect to accrued and unpaid interest, a Non-U.S. Holder will not be subject to United States federal income tax on gain realized on the sale, exchange or other disposition of a note unless the Non-U.S. Holder is an individual who is present in the United States for a period or periods aggregating 183 or more days in the taxable year of the disposition and certain other conditions are met, or such gain or income is effectively connected with a United States trade or business (and, if required by an applicable treaty, is attributable to a United States permanent establishment or fixed base). Accrued and unpaid interest realized on a sale, exchange or other disposition of a note will be treated as discussed under United States federal income taxation of Non-U.S. Holders Payments of interest.

Table of Contents

Backup withholding and information reporting

United States backup withholding will not apply to payments of interest on a note or proceeds from the sale or other disposition of a note payable to a Non-U.S. Holder if the certification described in United States federal income taxation of Non-U.S. Holders Payments of interest is duly provided by such Non-U.S. Holder or the Non-U.S. Holder otherwise establishes an exemption, provided that the payor does not have actual knowledge that the holder is a U.S. person or that the conditions of any claimed exemption are not satisfied. Certain information reporting still may apply to interest payments even if an exemption from backup withholding is established. Copies of any information returns reporting interest payments and any withholding also may be made available to the tax authorities in the country in which a Non-U.S. Holder resides under the provisions of an applicable income tax treaty.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding tax rules from a payment to a Non-U.S. Holder will be allowed as a refund or a credit against such Non-U.S. Holder's United States federal income tax liability, provided that the requisite procedures are followed.

Non-U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors regarding their particular circumstances and the availability of and procedure for establishing an exemption from backup withholding.

Table of Contents

Certain ERISA considerations

The following is a summary of certain considerations associated with the purchase of the notes, holding and, to the extent relevant, disposition of notes by an employee benefit plan subject to Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA), a plan described in Section 4975 of the Code, including an individual retirement account (IRA) or a Keogh plan, a plan subject to provisions under applicable federal, state, local, non-U.S. or other laws or regulations that are similar to the provisions of Title I of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code (Similar Laws) and any entity whose underlying assets include plan assets by reason of any such employee benefit or retirement plan investment in such entity (each of which we refer to as a Plan).

* * * * *

TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH TREASURY DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR 230, HOLDERS OF THE NOTES ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT: (A) ANY DISCUSSION OF UNITED STATES FEDERAL TAX ISSUES IN THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT IS NOT INTENDED OR WRITTEN TO BE RELIED UPON, AND CANNOT BE RELIED UPON, BY HOLDERS OF NOTES FOR THE PURPOSE OF AVOIDING PENALTIES THAT MAY BE IMPOSED ON SUCH HOLDERS UNDER THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE; (B) SUCH DISCUSSION IS INCLUDED HEREIN BY THE ISSUER IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROMOTION OR MARKETING (WITHIN THE MEANING OF CIRCULAR 230) BY THE ISSUER OF THE TRANSACTIONS OR MATTERS ADDRESSED HEREIN; AND (C) HOLDERS OF NOTES SHOULD SEEK ADVICE BASED ON THEIR PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES FROM AN INDEPENDENT TAX ADVISOR.

* * * * *

General Fiduciary Matters. ERISA and the Code impose certain duties on persons who are fiduciaries of a Plan subject to Title I of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code (an ERISA Plan) and prohibit certain transactions involving the assets of an ERISA Plan with its fiduciaries or other interested parties. In general, under ERISA and the Code, any person who exercises any discretionary authority or control over the administration of such an ERISA Plan or the management or disposition of the assets of such an ERISA Plan, or who renders investment advice for a fee or other compensation to such an ERISA Plan, is generally considered to be a fiduciary of the ERISA Plan. Plans that are governmental plans (as defined in Section 3(32) of ERISA), certain church plans (as defined in Section 3(33) of ERISA or Section 4975(g)(3) of the Code) and non-U.S. plans (as described in Section 4(b)(4) of ERISA) are not subject to the requirements of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code (but may be subject to similar prohibitions under Similar Laws).

In considering the purchase, holding and, to the extent relevant, disposition of notes with a portion of the assets of a Plan, a fiduciary should determine whether the investment is in accordance with the documents and instruments governing the Plan and the applicable provisions of ERISA, the Code or any Similar Law relating to a fiduciary's duties to the Plan including, without limitation, the prudence, diversification, delegation of control and prohibited transaction provisions of ERISA, the Code and any other applicable Similar Laws.

Prohibited Transaction Issues. Section 406 of ERISA prohibits ERISA Plans from engaging in specified transactions involving plan assets with persons or entities who are parties in interest, within the meaning of Section 3(14) of ERISA, and Section 4975 of the Code imposes an excise tax on certain disqualified persons, within the meaning of Section 4975 of the Code, who engage in similar transactions, in each case unless an exemption is available. A party in interest or disqualified person who engages in a non-exempt prohibited transaction may be subject to excise taxes and other penalties and liabilities under ERISA and the Code. In addition, the fiduciary of an ERISA Plan that engages in such a non-exempt prohibited transaction may be subject to penalties and liabilities under ERISA and the Code. In the case of an IRA, the occurrence of a prohibited transaction could cause the IRA to lose its tax-exempt status.

Table of Contents

The underwriters or the Company may be parties in interest or disqualified persons with respect to ERISA Plans and the purchase and/or holding of notes by an ERISA Plan with respect to which the issuer, the underwriters or a guarantor (or certain of our or their affiliates) is considered a party in interest or a disqualified person may constitute or result in a direct or indirect prohibited transaction under Section 406 of ERISA and/or Section 4975 of the Code, unless the investment is acquired and is held in accordance with an applicable statutory, class or individual prohibited transaction exemption. In this regard, the U.S. Department of Labor has issued prohibited transaction class exemptions, or PTCEs, that may apply to the acquisition and holding of the notes. These class exemptions include, without limitation, PTCE 84-14 respecting transactions determined by independent qualified professional asset managers, PTCE 90-1 respecting insurance company pooled separate accounts, PTCE 91-38 respecting bank collective investment funds, PTCE 95-60 respecting life insurance company general accounts and PTCE 96-23 respecting transactions determined by in-house asset managers. In addition, Section 408(b)(17) of ERISA and Section 4975(d)(20) of the Code each provides a limited exemption, commonly referred to as the service provider exemption, from the prohibited transaction provisions of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Code for certain transactions between an ERISA Plan and a person that is a party in interest and/or a disqualified person (other than a fiduciary or an affiliate that, directly or indirectly, has or exercises any discretionary authority or control or renders any investment advice with respect to the assets of any ERISA Plan involved in the transaction) solely by reason of providing services to the Plan or by relationship to a service provider, provided that the ERISA Plan pays no more than adequate consideration in connection with the transaction. There can be no assurance that all of the conditions of any such exemptions will be satisfied at the time that the notes are acquired by a purchaser, or thereafter, if the facts relied upon for utilizing a prohibited transaction exemption change.

Because of the foregoing, the notes should not be acquired or held by any person investing plan assets of any Plan, unless such acquisition and holding will not constitute a non-exempt prohibited transaction under ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code or similar violation of any applicable Similar Laws for which there is no applicable statutory, regulatory or administrative exemption.

Representation. Each purchaser and holder of notes will be deemed to have represented and warranted that either (i) it is not a Plan, such as an IRA, and no portion of the assets used to acquire or hold the notes constitutes assets of any Plan or (ii) the purchase and holding of a note will not constitute a non-exempt prohibited transaction under Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code or similar violation under any applicable Similar Laws for which there is no applicable statutory, regulatory or administrative exemption.

The foregoing discussion is general in nature and is not intended to be all-inclusive. Due to the complexity of these rules and the penalties that may be imposed upon persons involved in non-exempt prohibited transactions, it is particularly important that fiduciaries or other persons considering purchasing notes on behalf of, or with the assets of, any Plan, consult with their counsel regarding the potential applicability of ERISA, Section 4975 of the Code and any Similar Laws to such investment and whether an exemption would be applicable to the purchase and holding of the notes. The acquisition, holding and, to the extent relevant, disposition of notes by or to any Plan is in no respect a representation by us or any of our affiliates or representatives that such an investment meets all relevant legal requirements with respect to investments by such Plans generally or any particular plan, or that such an investment is appropriate for Plans generally or any particular Plan.

Table of Contents**Underwriting**

Under the terms and subject to the conditions contained in an underwriting agreement, dated September 1, 2010 (the underwriting agreement), the underwriters named below (the underwriters), for whom Banc of America Securities LLC and J.P. Morgan Securities LLC are acting as representatives (the representatives), have severally agreed to purchase, and we have agreed to sell to them, severally, the respective principal amount of notes set forth opposite their names below:

Underwriter	Principal amount of notes
Banc of America Securities LLC	\$
J.P. Morgan Securities LLC	
Total	\$

The underwriting agreement provides that the underwriters are obligated to purchase all of the notes if any are purchased.

The underwriters propose to offer the notes initially at the public offering price on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and to selling group members at that price less a selling concession of % of the principal amount of the notes. The underwriters and the selling group members may allow a discount of % of the principal amount of the notes on sales to other brokers/dealers. After the initial offering of the notes, the price to public and other selling terms may from time to time be varied by the underwriters. The offering of the notes by the underwriters is subject to receipt and acceptance and subject to the underwriters' right to reject any order in whole or in part.

The aggregate proceeds to us are set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement before deducting our expenses in offering the notes. We estimate that we will pay approximately \$ million for expenses, excluding underwriting discounts, allocable to the offering.

We have agreed to indemnify the several underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, or to contribute to payments that the underwriters may be required to make in respect thereof.

The notes are new issues of securities with no established trading market. One or more underwriters intend to make a secondary market for the notes. However, they are not obligated to do so and may discontinue making a secondary market for the notes at any time without notice. No assurance can be given as to how liquid the trading market for the notes will be.

In connection with the offering, the underwriters may engage in transactions that stabilize the market price of the notes. Such transactions consist of bids or purchases to peg, fix or maintain the price of the notes. If the underwriters create a short position in the notes in connection with the offering, i.e., if they sell more notes than are listed on the cover page of this prospectus supplement, the underwriters may reduce that short position by purchasing notes in the open market. Purchases of a security to stabilize the price or to reduce a short position may cause the price of the security to be higher than it might be in the absence of these purchases.

The underwriters also may impose a penalty bid. This occurs when a particular underwriter repays to the underwriters a portion of the underwriting discount received by it because the representatives have repurchased notes sold by or for the account of such underwriter in stabilizing or short covering transactions.

Neither we nor the underwriters make any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above may have on the price of the notes. In addition, neither we nor the underwriters make any representation that the underwriters will engage in these transactions or that these transactions, once commenced, will not be discontinued without notice.

Table of Contents

Some of the underwriters and their affiliates have engaged in, and may in the future engage in, investment banking and other commercial dealings in the ordinary course of business with us and our affiliates. They have received, and may in the future receive, customary fees and commissions for these transactions.

The underwriters and their respective affiliates are full service financial institutions engaged in various activities, which may include securities trading, commercial and investment banking, financial advisory, investment management, principal investment, hedging, financing and brokerage activities.

In the ordinary course of their various business activities, the underwriters and their respective affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers and may at any time hold long and short positions in such securities and instruments. Such investment and securities activities may involve securities and instruments of the issuer.

Selling restrictions

European Economic Area

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a Relevant Member State), each underwriter has represented and agreed that with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that Relevant Member State (the Relevant Implementation Date) it has not made and will not make an offer of notes to the public in that Relevant Member State prior to the publication of a prospectus in relation to the notes which has been approved by the competent authority in that Relevant Member State or, where appropriate, approved in another Relevant Member State and notified to the competent authority in that Relevant Member State, all in accordance with the Prospectus Directive, except that it may, with effect from and including the Relevant Implementation Date, make an offer of notes to the public in that Relevant Member State at any time:

- (a) to legal entities which are authorized or regulated to operate in the financial markets or, if not so authorized or regulated, whose corporate purpose is solely to invest in securities;
- (b) to any legal entity which has two or more of (1) an average of at least 250 employees during the last financial year; (2) a total balance sheet of more than 43,000,000 and (3) an annual net turnover of more than 50,000,000, as shown in its last annual or consolidated accounts;
- (c) to fewer than 100 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive) subject to obtaining the prior consent of the representatives for any such offer; or
- (d) in any other circumstances which do not require the publication by Comerica of a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive.

For the purposes of this provision, the expression an offer of notes to the public in relation to any notes in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the notes to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe the notes, as the same may be varied in that Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that Member State and the expression Prospectus Directive means Directive 2003/71/EC and includes any relevant implementing measure in each Relevant Member State.

United Kingdom

Each underwriter has represented and agreed that:

Edgar Filing: COMERICA INC /NEW/ - Form 424B5

- (a) it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated an invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of the FSMA) received by it in connection with the issue or sale of the notes in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to Comerica; and
- (b) it has complied and will comply with all applicable provisions of the FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to the notes in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

S-25

Table of Contents

Hong Kong

The notes may not be offered or sold by means of any document other than (i) in circumstances which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap.32, Laws of Hong Kong), or (ii) to professional investors within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap.571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder, or (iii) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a prospectus within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap.32, Laws of Hong Kong), and no advertisement, invitation or document relating to the notes may be issued or may be in the possession of any person for the purpose of issue (in each case whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere), which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public in Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to notes which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to professional investors within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap.571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder.

Japan

The notes have not been and will not be registered under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law of Japan (the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law) and each underwriter has agreed that it will not offer or sell any notes, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, any resident of Japan (which term as used herein means any person resident in Japan, including any corporation or other entity organized under the laws of Japan), or to others for re-offering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to a resident of Japan, except pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of, and otherwise in compliance with, the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law and any other applicable laws, regulations and ministerial guidelines of Japan.

Singapore

This prospectus has not been registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Accordingly, this prospectus and any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of the notes may not be circulated or distributed, nor may the notes be offered or sold, or be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, whether directly or indirectly, to persons in Singapore other than (i) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore (the SFA), (ii) to a relevant person, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions, specified in Section 275 of the SFA or (iii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA.

Where the notes are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 by a relevant person which is: (a) a corporation (which is not an accredited investor) the sole business of which is to hold investments and the entire share capital of which is owned by one or more individuals, each of whom is an accredited investor; or (b) a trust (where the trustee is not an accredited investor) whose sole purpose is to hold investments and each beneficiary is an accredited investor, shares, debentures and units of shares and debentures of that corporation or the beneficiaries' rights and interest in that trust shall not be transferable for 6 months after that corporation or that trust has acquired the notes under Section 275 except: (1) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the SFA or to a relevant person, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions, specified in Section 275 of the SFA; (2) where no consideration is given for the transfer; or (3) by operation of law.

Table of Contents

Legal matters

The validity of the notes offered hereby and certain other legal matters relating to the offering will be passed upon for us by Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz, special counsel to Comerica and by Mr. Thad A. Schaefer, Senior Vice President and Assistant General Counsel – Corporate Planning & Development and Wealth Management. Mr. Schaefer beneficially owns or has rights to acquire an aggregate of less than 1% of Comerica’s common stock. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the underwriters by Mayer Brown LLP. From time to time, Mayer Brown LLP has represented Comerica on various matters and may do so in the future.

Experts

The consolidated financial statements of Comerica included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009, and the effectiveness of Comerica’s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2009, have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their reports thereon, included therein, and incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements are incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such reports given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

S-27

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS

Comerica Incorporated

Common Stock

Preferred Stock

Depositary Shares

Debt Securities

Warrants to Purchase Common Stock, Preferred Stock and Debt Securities

Stock Purchase Contracts

Stock Purchase Units

Comerica Capital Trust III

Capital Securities Guaranteed to the Extent Provided in this Prospectus by

Comerica Incorporated

Comerica or Comerica Capital Trust III will provide the specific terms of these securities in supplements to this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement carefully before you invest in any of these securities.

Comerica's common stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CMA.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

These securities are not deposits or savings accounts but are unsecured obligations of Comerica. These securities are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency or instrumentality.

March 8, 2010

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	3
<u>FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	3
<u>COMERICA INCORPORATED</u>	4
<u>COMERICA CAPITAL TRUST III</u>	4
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	6
<u>CONSOLIDATED RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES</u>	6
<u>DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK</u>	7
<u>DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES</u>	13
<u>DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES</u>	16
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE WARRANTS TO PURCHASE COMMON STOCK OR PREFERRED STOCK</u>	24
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE WARRANTS TO PURCHASE DEBT SECURITIES</u>	26
<u>DESCRIPTION OF STOCK PURCHASE CONTRACTS AND STOCK PURCHASE UNITS</u>	27
<u>DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL SECURITIES AND GUARANTEES</u>	28
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	41
<u>ERISA CONSIDERATIONS</u>	43
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	44
<u>EXPERTS</u>	44
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	44

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any supplement. Neither Comerica nor Comerica Capital Trust III has authorized anyone else to provide you with different information. Comerica and Comerica Capital Trust III are offering these securities only in states where the offer is permitted. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or any supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of those documents. Comerica's business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date.

In this prospectus, unless the context requires otherwise, references to Comerica, , we, us or our are to Comerica Incorporated and its consolidated subsidiaries.

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities Comerica or Comerica Capital Trust III may offer. This prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement as permitted by the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). For additional information regarding Comerica and Comerica Capital Trust III and the offered securities, please refer to the registration statement. Each time Comerica or Comerica Capital Trust III sells securities, it will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with additional information described under the heading "Where You Can Find More Information."

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that Comerica and Comerica Capital Trust III filed with the SEC under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"). This prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement do not contain all of the information included in the registration statement. For further information, we refer you to the registration statement, including its exhibits. Statements contained in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement about the provisions or contents of any agreement or other document are not necessarily complete. If the SEC's rules and regulations require that such agreement or document be filed as an exhibit to the registration statement, please see such agreement or document for a complete description of these matters. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of each document.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus include forward-looking statements as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements regarding Comerica's expected financial position, strategies and growth prospects and general economic conditions Comerica expects to exist in the future are forward-looking statements. Words such as "anticipates," "believes," "feels," "expects," "estimates," "seeks," "strives," "plans," "intends," "outlook," "forecast," "position," "target," "mission," "assume," "achievable," "pursue," "aspiration," "outcome," "continue," "remain," "maintain," "trend," "objective" and variations of such words and similar expressions, or future or conditional verbs such as "will," "would," "should," "could," "might," "can," "may" or similar expressions, as they relate to Comerica or its management, are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are predicated on the beliefs and assumptions of Comerica's management based on information known to Comerica's management as of the date of this prospectus and do not purport to speak as of any other date. Forward-looking statements may include descriptions of plans and objectives of Comerica's management for future or past operations, products or services, and forecasts of Comerica's revenue, earnings or other measures of economic performance, including statements of profitability, business segments and subsidiaries, estimates of credit trends and global stability. Such statements reflect the view of Comerica's management as of this date with respect to future events and are subject to risks and uncertainties. Should one or more of these risks materialize or should underlying beliefs or assumptions prove incorrect, Comerica's actual results could differ materially from those discussed.

Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences are further economic downturns, changes in the pace of an economic recovery and related changes in employment levels, changes in real estate values, fuel prices, energy costs or other events that could affect customer income levels or general economic conditions, the effects of recently enacted legislation, such as the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, and actions taken by the U.S. Department of Treasury, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Texas Department of Banking and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the effects of war and other armed conflicts or acts of terrorism, the effects of natural disasters including, but not limited to, hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, fires, droughts and floods, the

Table of Contents

disruption of private or public utilities, the implementation of Comerica's strategies and business models, management's ability to maintain and expand customer relationships, changes in customer borrowing, repayment, investment and deposit practices, management's ability to retain key officers and employees, changes in the accounting treatment of any particular item, the impact of regulatory examinations, declines or other changes in the businesses or industries in which Comerica has a concentration of loans, including, but not limited to, the automotive production industry and the real estate business lines, the anticipated performance of any new banking centers, the entry of new competitors in Comerica's markets, changes in the level of fee income, changes in applicable laws and regulations, including those concerning taxes, banking, securities and insurance, changes in trade, monetary and fiscal policies, including the interest rate policies of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, fluctuations in inflation or interest rates, changes in general economic, political or industry conditions and related credit and market conditions, the interdependence of financial service companies and adverse conditions in the stock market. Comerica cautions that the foregoing list of factors is not exclusive. For discussion of factors that may cause actual results to differ from expectations, please refer to Comerica's filings with the SEC. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made. Comerica does not undertake to update forward-looking statements to reflect facts, circumstances, assumptions or events that occur after the date the forward-looking statements are made, except as required by law. For any forward-looking statements made in this prospectus or the documents incorporated by reference, Comerica claims the protection of the safe harbor for forward-looking statements contained in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

COMERICA INCORPORATED

Comerica Incorporated (Comerica) is a financial services company incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware, and headquartered in Dallas, Texas. As of December 31, 2009, it was among the 25 largest commercial bank holding companies in the United States. Comerica was formed in 1973 to acquire the outstanding common stock of Comerica Bank, which at such time was a Michigan banking corporation and one of Michigan's oldest banks (formerly Comerica Bank-Detroit). On October 31, 2007, Comerica Bank, a Michigan banking corporation, was merged with and into Comerica Bank, a Texas banking association. As of December 31, 2009, Comerica owned directly or indirectly all the outstanding common stock of two active banking and 48 nonbanking subsidiaries. At December 31, 2009, Comerica had total assets of approximately \$59.2 billion, total deposits of approximately \$39.7 billion, total loans (net of unearned income) of approximately \$42.2 billion and shareholders equity of approximately \$7.0 billion.

Comerica's principal executive office is at Comerica Bank Tower, 1717 Main Street, Dallas, Texas 75201, and its telephone number is (214) 462-6831.

COMERICA CAPITAL TRUST III

Purpose and Ownership of the Trust

Comerica Capital Trust III is a statutory trust organized under Delaware law by us solely for the following purposes:

to issue to Comerica the capital securities, which represent undivided beneficial ownership interests in the assets of the trust;

to issue to Comerica common securities in a total liquidation amount equal to a portion of the total capital of the trust; and

to engage in other activities that are directly related to the activities described above, such as registering the transfer of the capital securities.

Because Comerica Capital Trust III is being established only for the purposes listed above, the applicable series of junior subordinated debentures will be the sole assets of the trust, and payments under the junior subordinated debentures will be the sole source of income to the trust.

Table of Contents

As issuer of the junior subordinated debentures, Comerica will pay:

all fees, expenses and taxes related to the trust and the offering of the trust's capital securities and common securities; and

all ongoing costs, expenses and liabilities of the trust, except obligations to make distributions and other payments on the common securities and the capital securities.

For so long as the capital securities remain outstanding, Comerica will promise to:

cause the trust to remain a statutory trust and not to voluntarily dissolve, wind-up, liquidate or be terminated, except as permitted by the declaration of trust;

own directly or indirectly all of the common securities;

use its commercially reasonable efforts to ensure that the trust will not be an investment company for purposes of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, or the Investment Company Act; and

take no action that would be reasonably likely to cause the trust to be classified as an association or a publicly traded partnership taxable as a corporation for United States federal income tax purposes.

The Trustees

The trust's business and affairs will be conducted by its five trustees. The three administrative trustees of Comerica Capital Trust III will be individuals who are Comerica's employees. The property trustee of the trust will hold title to the junior subordinated debentures for the benefit of the holders of the capital securities of the trust and will have the power to execute all rights and powers of a registered holder of junior subordinated debentures under the indenture for the junior subordinated debentures. The Delaware trustee will maintain its principal place of business in Delaware and meet the requirements of Delaware law for Delaware statutory trusts.

Comerica has the sole right to appoint, remove and replace any of the trustees of the trust unless an event of default occurs under the indenture. In that event, the holders of a majority in liquidation amount of the applicable capital securities will have the sole right to remove and appoint the property trustee and the Delaware trustee.

Additional Information

Comerica anticipates that the trust will not be required to file any reports with the SEC after the issuance of the capital securities. As discussed below under the caption *Accounting Treatment*, Comerica will provide certain information concerning the trust and the capital securities in the footnotes to Comerica's financial statements included in its own periodic reports to the SEC.

Office of the Trust

The executive office of the trust is c/o Comerica Incorporated, Comerica Bank Tower, 1717 Main Street, Dallas, Texas 75201, and its telephone number is (214) 462-6831.

Table of Contents**USE OF PROCEEDS**

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, Comerica will use the proceeds it receives from the sale of the offered securities for general corporate purposes, which may include:

funding the business of its operating units;

funding investments in, or extensions of credit or capital contributions to, its subsidiaries;

financing possible acquisitions or business expansion; and

refinancing outstanding indebtedness or refunding maturing indebtedness.

Comerica Capital Trust III will invest all proceeds received from the sale of its capital securities and common securities in a particular series of junior subordinated debt securities of Comerica. Comerica will use these funds as specified above.

CONSOLIDATED RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Consolidated ratio of earnings to fixed charges:					
Excluding interest on deposits	(a)	1.50x	2.69x	3.49x	6.05x
Including interest on deposits	(a)	1.21x	1.56x	1.77x	2.54x
Consolidated ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred share dividends:					
Excluding interest on deposits	(b)	1.45x	2.69x	3.49x	6.05x
Including interest on deposits	(b)	1.19x	1.56x	1.77x	2.54x

(a) For the year ended December 31, 2009, earnings were insufficient to cover fixed charges, excluding or including interest on deposits, by \$96,000,000.

(b) For the year ended December 31, 2009, earnings were insufficient to cover combined fixed charges and preferred share dividends, excluding or including interest on deposits, by \$230,000,000.

For purposes of computing these ratios, earnings represent income after interest on tax liabilities and before income taxes and fixed charges. Fixed charges, excluding interest on deposits, include interest (other than on deposits and on tax liabilities), whether expensed or capitalized, and that portion of rental expense (generally one-third) deemed representative of the interest factor. Fixed charges, including interest on deposits, consist of the foregoing items plus interest on deposits.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

General

As of the date of this prospectus, Comerica's authorized capital stock consists of 325,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$5.00 per share, and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, without value. The following briefly summarizes the material terms of Comerica's common stock and outstanding preferred stock. You should read the more detailed provisions of Comerica's certificate of incorporation and the certificate of designation relating to a series of preferred stock for provisions that may be important to you.

Common Stock

As of February 22, 2010, Comerica had outstanding 151,174,236 shares of its common stock. Comerica has also issued to the United States Department of the Treasury (Treasury) a warrant (the Warrant) to purchase 11,479,592 shares of Comerica's common stock. See *Fixed Rate Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series F*. The Warrant has a 10-year term and is immediately exercisable, with an exercise price, subject to certain anti-dilution and other adjustments, equal to \$29.40 per share of the Common Stock. If Comerica receives aggregate gross cash proceeds of not less than \$2,250,000,000 from certain qualified equity offerings on or prior to December 31, 2009, the number of shares of common stock issuable pursuant to the Warrant will be reduced by one-half of the original number of shares, taking into account all adjustments, underlying the Warrant. See *Fixed Rate Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series F*. The Warrant is not subject to any contractual restrictions on transfer, except that Treasury may only transfer or exercise an aggregate of one-half of the warrant shares prior to the earlier of the redemption of 100% of the shares of Series F Preferred Stock and December 31, 2009.

Holders of Comerica common stock are entitled to receive dividends when, as and if declared by the Comerica board of directors out of any funds legally available for dividends. Holders of Comerica common stock are also entitled, upon the liquidation of Comerica, and after claims of creditors and preferences of Comerica preferred stock, and any other class or series of Comerica preferred stock outstanding at the time of liquidation, to receive pro rata the net assets of Comerica. Comerica pays dividends on Comerica common stock only if it has paid or provided for all dividends on the outstanding series of Comerica preferred stock, and any other class or series of preferred stock at the time outstanding, for the then-current period and, in the case of any cumulative Comerica preferred stock, all prior periods.

Comerica preferred stock has, or upon issuance will have, preference over Comerica common stock with respect to the payment of dividends and the distribution of assets in the event of the liquidation or dissolution of Comerica. Comerica preferred stock also has such other preferences as may be fixed by the Comerica board of directors.

Holders of Comerica common stock are entitled to one vote for each share that they hold and are vested with all of the voting power except as the Comerica board of directors has provided, or may provide in the future, with respect to Comerica preferred stock or any other class or series of Comerica preferred stock that it may authorize in the future. See *Preferred Stock*. Shares of Comerica common stock are not redeemable and have no subscription, conversion or preemptive rights.

The affirmative vote of not less than 75% of Comerica's outstanding shares of capital stock entitled to vote may be required for certain business combinations between Comerica or its subsidiaries and persons owning 10% or more of the outstanding shares of any class or series of Comerica's capital stock. See *Selected Provisions in the Articles of Comerica Business Combinations With Related Persons*.

Comerica common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CMA. The outstanding shares of Comerica common stock are, and any shares to be issued pursuant to a prospectus supplement will be, validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable. The holders of Comerica common stock are

Table of Contents

not, and will not be, generally subject to any liability as stockholders; however, if the Comerica board of directors approves, and Comerica makes, a distribution when Comerica is insolvent, or that renders Comerica insolvent, and any of Comerica's directors is found liable for the distribution, then Comerica stockholders may be required to pay back the amount of the distribution made to them or the portion of the distribution that caused Comerica to become insolvent.

The Transfer Agent and Registrar for Comerica common stock is Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., P.O. Box 64854, St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0854.

The Change in Bank Control Act prohibits a person or group of persons from acquiring control of a bank holding company unless the Federal Reserve Board has been notified and has not objected to the transaction. Under a rebuttable presumption established by the Federal Reserve Board, the acquisition of 10% or more of a class of voting stock of a bank holding company with a class of securities registered under Section 12 of the Exchange Act, such as Comerica, would, under the circumstances set forth in the presumption, constitute acquisition of control of the bank holding company.

In addition, a company is required to obtain the approval of the Federal Reserve Board under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 before acquiring 25% (5% in the case of an acquiror that is a bank holding company) or more of any class of outstanding voting stock of a bank holding company, or otherwise obtaining control or a controlling influence over that bank holding company.

Preferred Stock

The following briefly summarizes the material terms of Comerica's preferred stock, other than pricing and related terms disclosed in the accompanying prospectus supplement. You should read the particular terms of any series of preferred stock offered by Comerica, which will be described in more detail in any prospectus supplement relating to such series, together with the more detailed provisions of Comerica's restated certificate of incorporation and the certificate of designation relating to each particular series of preferred stock for provisions that may be important to you. The certificate of incorporation, as amended and restated, is incorporated by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. The certificate of designation relating to the particular series of preferred stock offered by the accompanying prospectus supplement and this prospectus will be filed as an exhibit to a document incorporated by reference in the registration statement. The prospectus supplement will also state whether any of the terms summarized below do not apply to the series of preferred stock being offered.

Under Comerica's certificate of incorporation, the board of directors of Comerica is authorized to issue up to 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock in one or more series. As of the date of this prospectus, Comerica has issued 2,250,000 shares of preferred stock as Fixed Rate Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series F without par value (the "Series F Preferred Stock"). Comerica's Board of Directors is expressly authorized to provide for the issuance of shares of Preferred Stock in one or more series, with such voting powers, full or limited but not to exceed one vote per share, or without voting powers, and with such designations, preferences and relative, participating, optional or other special rights, and qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereof, as the Board of Directors may determine.

Prior to the issuance of any series of preferred stock, the board of directors of Comerica will adopt resolutions creating and designating the series as a series of preferred stock, and the resolutions will be filed in a certificate of designation as an amendment to the certificate of incorporation. The term "board of directors of Comerica" includes any duly authorized committee.

The rights of holders of the preferred stock offered may be adversely affected by the rights of holders of any shares of preferred stock that may be issued in the future. The board of directors may cause shares of preferred stock to be issued in public or private transactions for any proper corporate purpose. Examples of proper corporate purposes include issuances to obtain additional financing in connection with acquisitions or otherwise

Table of Contents

and issuances to officers, directors and employees of Comerica and its subsidiaries pursuant to benefit plans or otherwise. Shares of preferred stock issued by Comerica may have the effect of rendering more difficult or discouraging an acquisition of Comerica deemed undesirable by the board of directors of Comerica.

Under existing interpretations of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, if the holders of the preferred stock become entitled to vote for the election of directors because dividends on the preferred stock are in arrears as described below, preferred stock may then be deemed a class of voting securities, and a holder of 25% or more of the preferred stock or a holder of 5% or more of the preferred stock that is otherwise a bank holding company may then be regulated as a bank holding company with respect to Comerica in accordance with the Bank Holding Company Act. In addition, at such time:

any bank holding company or foreign bank with a U.S. presence generally would be required to obtain the approval of the Federal Reserve Board under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 to acquire or retain 5% or more of the preferred stock; and

any person other than a bank holding company may be required to obtain the approval of the Federal Reserve Board under the Change in Bank Control Act to acquire or retain 10% or more of the preferred stock.

Before exercising its option to redeem any shares of preferred stock, Comerica will obtain the approval of the Federal Reserve Board if then required by applicable law.

The preferred stock will be, when issued, fully paid and non-assessable. Holders of preferred stock will not have any preemptive or subscription rights to acquire more stock of Comerica.

The transfer agent, registrar, dividend disbursing agent and redemption agent for shares of each series of preferred stock will be named in the prospectus supplement relating to such series.

Rank

Unless otherwise specified in connection with a particular offering of preferred stock, such shares will rank on an equal basis with each other series of preferred stock and prior to the common stock as to dividends and distributions of assets.

Dividends

Holders of each series of preferred stock will be entitled to receive cash dividends when, as and if declared by the board of directors of Comerica out of funds legally available for dividends. The rates and dates of payment of dividends will be set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to each series of preferred stock. Dividends will be payable to holders of record of preferred stock as they appear on the books of Comerica or, if applicable, the records of the depositary referred to below under *Description of Depositary Shares*, on the record dates fixed by the board of directors. Dividends on a series of preferred stock may be cumulative or noncumulative.

Comerica may not declare, pay or set apart for payment dividends on the preferred stock unless full dividends on other series of preferred stock that rank on an equal or senior basis have been paid or sufficient funds have been set apart for payment for

all prior dividend periods of other series of preferred stock that pay dividends on a cumulative basis; or

the immediately preceding dividend period of other series of preferred stock that pay dividends on a non-cumulative basis.

Partial dividends declared on shares of preferred stock and each other series of preferred stock ranking on an equal basis as to dividends will be declared pro rata. A pro rata declaration means that the ratio of dividends declared per share to accrued dividends per share will be the same for each series of preferred stock.

Table of Contents

Similarly, Comerica may not declare, pay or set apart for payment non-stock dividends or make other payments on the common stock or any other stock of Comerica ranking junior to the preferred stock until full dividends on the preferred stock have been paid or set apart for payment for

all prior dividend periods if the preferred stock pays dividends on a cumulative basis; or

the immediately preceding dividend period if the preferred stock pays dividends on a noncumulative basis.

Conversion and Exchange

The prospectus supplement for a series of preferred stock will state the terms, if any, on which shares of that series are convertible into or exchangeable for shares of Comerica's common stock.

Redemption

If so specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, a series of preferred stock may be redeemable at any time, in whole or in part, at the option of Comerica or the holder thereof and may be mandatorily redeemed.

Any partial redemptions of preferred stock will be made in a way that the board of directors decides is equitable.

Unless Comerica defaults in the payment of the redemption price, dividends will cease to accrue after the redemption date on shares of preferred stock called for redemption, and all rights of holders of such shares will terminate except for the right to receive the redemption price.

Liquidation Preference

Upon any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Comerica, holders of each series of preferred stock will be entitled to receive distributions upon liquidation in the amount set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to such series of preferred stock, plus an amount equal to any accrued and unpaid dividends. Such distributions will be made before any distribution is made on any securities ranking junior relating to liquidation, including common stock.

If the liquidation amounts payable relating to the preferred stock of any series and any other securities ranking on a parity regarding liquidation rights are not paid in full, the holders of the preferred stock of such series and such other securities will share in any such distribution of available assets of Comerica on a ratable basis in proportion to the full liquidation preferences. Holders of such series of preferred stock will not be entitled to any other amounts from Comerica after they have received their full liquidation preference.

Voting Rights

The holders of shares of preferred stock will have no voting rights except:

as otherwise stated in the prospectus supplement;

as otherwise stated in the certificate of designation establishing such series; and

as required by applicable law.

Fixed Rate Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series F

Edgar Filing: COMERICA INC /NEW/ - Form 424B5

In the fourth quarter 2008, Comerica participated in the U.S. Department of Treasury's Capital Purchase Program (Capital Purchase Program). Pursuant to the Capital Purchase Program, on November 14, 2008, Comerica issued to the U.S. Department of Treasury, in exchange for aggregate cash consideration of \$2.25 billion, (i) 2,250,000 shares of Series F Preferred Stock, and (ii) the Warrant. See *Common Stock*. The Series F Preferred Stock pays cumulative dividends at a rate of 5% per annum for the first five years, and

Table of Contents

thereafter at a rate of 9% per annum. In accordance with law, the Series F Preferred Stock may be redeemed by Comerica, subject to consultation with its federal banking regulator, as permitted by the U.S. Department of Treasury.

The Series F Preferred Stock is not subject to any contractual restrictions on transfer.

Selected Provisions in the Certificate of Incorporation of Comerica

The following discussion sets forth material provisions of the Comerica certificate of incorporation.

Business Combinations With Related Persons

The Comerica certificate provides that certain transactions known as *business combinations* involving persons known as *related persons* must be approved by the affirmative vote of the holders of 75% of the outstanding shares of capital stock entitled to vote and by the holders of a majority of the outstanding capital stock not beneficially owned by related persons, unless:

the transaction is approved by a 75% vote of Comerica's continuing directors either before or after the time the related person became a related person; or

each of the following conditions is met:

the consideration to be paid for each share of any class or series of Comerica capital stock is not less than the highest per share price or the highest equivalent price paid or to be paid by the related person in acquiring any shares of the same class or series; and

a proxy statement, complying with the requirements of the Exchange Act, has been mailed to all Comerica stockholders to solicit their approval. The proxy statement must contain prominently the recommendation of the continuing directors as to the advisability of the business combination and, if a majority of the continuing directors deem it advisable, it must also contain the opinion of an investment banking firm regarding the fairness of the terms of the combination from the perspective of the stockholders who are not related persons.

A *Business Combination* includes:

any merger or consolidation of Comerica or any of its subsidiaries with a related person or any of its affiliates or associates;

any sale, lease, exchange, transfer or other disposition to or with a related person of all, substantially all or any substantial part (defined as assets having a value of more than 10% of the total consolidated assets of Comerica, as determined by the continuing directors) of the assets of Comerica or any of its subsidiaries;

any purchase, exchange, lease or other acquisition by Comerica or any of its subsidiaries of all or any substantial part of the assets or business of a related person or any of its affiliates or associates;

any acquisition by Comerica or any of its subsidiaries of any securities of a related person;

Edgar Filing: COMERICA INC /NEW/ - Form 424B5

any issuance or transfer of securities of Comerica or any of its subsidiaries to any related person, other than an issuance or transfers that is made on a pro rata basis to all stockholders of the corporation; and

any agreement, contract or other arrangement providing for any of the transactions described in the five bullets points above.

A **Related Person** means any person or group who, together with any affiliates or associates (as each is defined in the Exchange Act), is the beneficial owner of 10% or more of the outstanding shares of any class or series of Comerica capital stock as of the record date for the determination of those stockholders entitled to vote on any business combination or immediately prior to the completion of a business combination.

Table of Contents

Continuing Directors are those individuals who were members of the Comerica board of directors prior to the time a related person became the beneficial owner of 10% or more of a class or series of Comerica stock or those individuals designated as continuing directors (prior to their initial election as directors) by a majority of the then-continuing directors.

Highest Per Share Price is the highest price that the related person paid at any time for a share of Comerica capital stock when there is only one class or series of Comerica capital stock outstanding.

Highest Equivalent Price means the price of any class or series of Comerica stock that 75% of the continuing directors determine to be the equivalent to the highest price paid by the related person for any share of another class or series of outstanding stock. The continuing directors may make this determination on any basis they believe is appropriate.

Any amendment to these provisions requires the affirmative vote of (1) the holders of 75% of the outstanding shares of capital stock entitled to vote and (2) a majority of the outstanding shares of capital stock entitled to vote that is not beneficially owned by a related person. However, if the amendment is recommended to the stockholders by 75% of the continuing directors, only the vote provided under the Delaware General Corporation Law is required.

Directors

The Comerica certificate contains a number of additional provisions that are intended to delay an outside party's ability to take control of the Comerica board of directors, even after the outside party has obtained majority ownership of Comerica common stock. The Comerica certificate provides for a classified board of directors, consisting of three classes of directors serving staggered three-year terms. Directors of Comerica may only be removed for cause by a vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding stock entitled to vote. Vacancies on the Comerica board of directors may only be filled by the Comerica board of directors. A vacancy that results from an increase in the number of directors may be filled by a majority of the board of directors then in office. Any other vacancy, including those resulting from removal, may be filled by a majority of the directors then in office, although less than a quorum, or by a sole remaining director.

If Comerica repeatedly fails to pay quarterly dividends on its nonvoting preferred stock, the holders of that preferred stock, voting separately as a class, will be entitled to elect two additional directors. See *Description of Comerica Capital Stock Preferred Stock*.

Any amendment to the provisions summarized above requires a favorable vote, at a meeting of stockholders, of the holders of 75% of the then outstanding shares of capital stock entitled to vote. However, if the amendment is recommended to the shareholders by an affirmative vote of 75% of the board of directors, the amendment may be approved by an affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of entitled to vote.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES

The following briefly summarizes the material provisions of the deposit agreement and of the depositary shares and depositary receipts, other than pricing and related terms disclosed in the accompanying prospectus supplement. You should read the particular terms of any depositary shares and any depositary receipts that are offered by Comerica and any deposit agreement relating to a particular series of preferred stock, which will be described in more detail in a prospectus supplement. The prospectus supplement will also state whether any of the generalized provisions summarized below do not apply to the depositary shares or depositary receipts being offered. A copy of the form of deposit agreement, including the form of depositary receipt, is incorporated by reference as an exhibit in the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. You should read the more detailed provisions of the deposit agreement and the form of depositary receipt for provisions that may be important to you.

General

Comerica may, at its option, elect to offer fractional shares of preferred stock, rather than full shares of preferred stock. In such event, Comerica will issue receipts for depositary shares, each of which will represent a fraction of a share of a particular series of preferred stock.

The shares of any series of preferred stock represented by depositary shares will be deposited under a deposit agreement between Comerica and a bank or trust company selected by Comerica having its principal office in the United States and having a combined capital and surplus of at least \$50,000,000, as preferred stock depositary. Each owner of a depositary share will be entitled to all the rights and preferences of the underlying preferred stock, including dividend, voting, redemption, conversion and liquidation rights, in proportion to the applicable fraction of a share of preferred stock represented by such depositary share.

The depositary shares will be evidenced by depositary receipts issued pursuant to the deposit agreement. Depositary receipts will be distributed to those persons purchasing the fractional shares of preferred stock in accordance with the terms of the applicable prospectus supplement.

Dividends and Other Distributions

The preferred stock depositary will distribute all cash dividends or other cash distributions received in respect of the deposited preferred stock to the record holders of depositary shares relating to such preferred stock in proportion to the number of such depositary shares owned by such holders.

The preferred stock depositary will distribute any property received by it other than cash to the record holders of depositary shares entitled thereto. If the preferred stock depositary determines that it is not feasible to make such distribution, it may, with the approval of Comerica, sell such property and distribute the net proceeds from such sale to such holders.

Redemption of Preferred Stock

If a series of preferred stock represented by depositary shares is to be redeemed, the depositary shares will be redeemed from the proceeds received by the preferred stock depositary resulting from the redemption, in whole or in part, of such series of preferred stock. The depositary shares will be redeemed by the preferred stock depositary at a price per depositary share equal to the applicable fraction of the redemption price per share payable in respect of the shares of preferred stock so redeemed.

Whenever Comerica redeems shares of preferred stock held by the preferred stock depositary, the preferred stock depositary will redeem as of the same date the number of depositary shares representing the shares of preferred stock so redeemed. If fewer than all the depositary shares are to be redeemed, the depositary shares to be redeemed will be selected by the preferred stock depositary by lot or ratably or by any other equitable method as the preferred stock depositary may decide.

Table of Contents

Withdrawal of Preferred Stock

Unless the related depositary shares have previously been called for redemption, any holder of depositary shares may receive the number of whole shares of the related series of preferred stock and any money or other property represented by such depositary receipts after surrendering the depositary receipts at the corporate trust office of the preferred stock depositary. Holders of depositary shares making such withdrawals will be entitled to receive whole shares of preferred stock on the basis set forth in the related prospectus supplement for such series of preferred stock.

However, holders of such whole shares of preferred stock will not be entitled to deposit such preferred stock under the deposit agreement or to receive depositary receipts for such preferred stock after such withdrawal. If the depositary shares surrendered by the holder in connection with such withdrawal exceed the number of depositary shares that represent the number of whole shares of preferred stock to be withdrawn, the preferred stock depositary will deliver to such holder at the same time a new depositary receipt evidencing such excess number of depositary shares.

Voting Deposited Preferred Stock

Upon receipt of notice of any meeting at which the holders of any series of deposited preferred stock are entitled to vote, the preferred stock depositary will mail the information contained in such notice of meeting to the record holders of the depositary shares relating to such series of preferred stock. Each record holder of such depositary shares on the record date will be entitled to instruct the preferred stock depositary to vote the amount of the preferred stock represented by such holder's depositary shares. The preferred stock depositary will try to vote the amount of such series of preferred stock represented by such depositary shares in accordance with such instructions.

Comerica will agree to take all reasonable actions that the preferred stock depositary determines are necessary to enable the preferred stock depositary to vote as instructed. The preferred stock depositary will vote all shares of any series of preferred stock held by it proportionately with instructions received if it does not receive specific instructions from the holders of depositary shares representing such series of preferred stock.

Amendment and Termination of the Deposit Agreement

The form of depositary receipt evidencing the depositary shares and any provision of the deposit agreement may at any time be amended by agreement between Comerica and the preferred stock depositary. However, any amendment that imposes additional charges or materially and adversely alters any substantial existing right of the holders of depositary shares will not be effective unless such amendment has been approved by the holders of at least a majority of the affected depositary shares then outstanding. Every holder of an outstanding depositary receipt at the time any such amendment becomes effective, or any transferee of such holder, shall be deemed, by continuing to hold such depositary receipt, or by reason of the acquisition thereof, to consent and agree to such amendment and to be bound by the deposit agreement, that has been amended thereby. The deposit agreement automatically terminates if:

all outstanding depositary shares have been redeemed;

each share of preferred stock has been converted into or exchanged for common stock; or

a final distribution in respect of the preferred stock has been made to the holders of depositary shares in connection with any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Comerica.

The deposit agreement may be terminated by Comerica at any time, and the preferred stock depositary will give notice of such termination to the record holders of all outstanding depositary receipts not less than 30 days prior to the termination date. In such event, the preferred stock depositary will deliver or make available for delivery to holders of depositary shares, upon surrender of such depositary shares, the number of whole or fractional shares of the related series of preferred stock as are represented by such depositary shares.

Table of Contents

Charges of Preferred Stock Depository; Taxes and Other Governmental Charges

No fees, charges and expenses of the preferred stock depository or any agent of the preferred stock depository or of any registrar shall be payable by any person other than Comerica, except for any taxes and other governmental charges and except as provided in the deposit agreement. If the preferred stock depository incurs fees, charges or expenses for which it is not otherwise liable hereunder at the election of a holder of a depository receipt or other person, such holder or other person will be liable for such fees, charges and expenses.

Resignation and Removal of Depository

The preferred stock depository may resign at any time by delivering to Comerica notice of its intent to do so, and Comerica may at any time remove the preferred stock depository, any such resignation or removal to take effect upon the appointment of a successor preferred stock depository and its acceptance of such appointment. Such successor preferred stock depository must be appointed within 60 days after delivery of the notice of resignation or removal and must be a bank or trust company having its principal office in the United States and having a combined capital and surplus of at least \$50,000,000.

Miscellaneous

The preferred stock depository will forward all reports and communications from Comerica that are delivered to the preferred stock depository and that Comerica is required to furnish to the holders of the deposited preferred stock.

Neither the preferred stock depository nor Comerica will be liable if it is prevented or delayed by law or any circumstances beyond its control in performing its obligations under the deposit agreement. The obligations of Comerica and the preferred stock depository under the deposit agreement will be limited to performance with honest intentions of their duties thereunder, and they will not be obligated to prosecute or defend any legal proceeding in respect of any depository shares, depository receipts or shares of preferred stock unless satisfactory indemnity is furnished. Comerica and the preferred stock depository may rely upon written advice of counsel or accountants or upon information provided by holders of depository receipts or other persons believed to be competent and on documents believed to be genuine.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

The following description of the debt securities sets forth the material terms and provisions of the debt securities. The debt securities offered by this prospectus will be unsecured obligations of Comerica and will be either senior or subordinated debt. The senior debt securities will be issued under an indenture, referred to in this prospectus as the senior indenture, between Comerica and The Bank of New York Mellon, as trustee, dated as of July 15, 2007, a copy of which is incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. The subordinated debt securities will be issued under an indenture, referred to in this prospectus as the subordinated indenture, between Comerica and The Bank of New York Mellon, as successor trustee, dated as of July 31, 2001, a copy of which is incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. The senior indenture and the subordinated indenture are sometimes referred to in this prospectus collectively as the indentures and each individually as an indenture. The specific terms applicable to a particular issuance of debt securities and any variations from the terms set forth below will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

The following is a summary of the material terms and provisions of the indentures and the debt securities. You should refer to the indentures and the debt securities for complete information regarding the terms and provisions of the indentures and the debt securities. The indentures are substantially identical, except for the covenants of and provisions relating to subordination.

General

The indentures do not limit the aggregate principal amount of debt securities which Comerica may issue. Comerica issue debt securities under the indentures from time to time in one or more series. The indentures do not limit the amount of other indebtedness, or debt securities other than secured indebtedness, which Comerica or its subsidiaries may issue.

Unless otherwise provided in a prospectus supplement, the senior debt securities will be Comerica's unsecured obligations and will rank equally with all of its other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness. The subordinated debt securities will be Comerica's unsecured obligations and will be subordinated in right of payment to the prior payment in full of all of Comerica's senior indebtedness, which term includes senior debt securities, as described below under *Subordination*.

Because Comerica is a holding company, its rights and the rights of its creditors, including holders of debt securities, and shareholders to participate in any distribution of assets of any subsidiary upon the subsidiary's liquidation or reorganization or otherwise would be subject to the prior claims of the subsidiary's creditors, except to the extent that Comerica is a creditor of the subsidiary. The right of Comerica's creditors, including holders of debt securities, to participate in the distribution of stock owned by Comerica in some of its subsidiaries, including its banking subsidiaries, may also be subject to approval by bank regulatory authorities having jurisdiction over these subsidiaries.

Each prospectus supplement will describe the following terms of the offered debt securities:

the title of the series;

any limit on the aggregate principal amount;

the principal payment dates;

the interest rates, if any, which rate may be zero if the debt securities are issued at a discount from the principal amount payable at maturity, or the method by which the interest rates will be determined, including, if applicable, any remarketing option or similar method;

the date or dates from which interest, if any, will accrue or the method by which the date or dates will be determined;

the interest payment dates and regular record dates;

Table of Contents

the place or places where the principal of, any premium or interest on any debt securities will be payable, where any of debt securities may be surrendered for registration of transfer or exchange, and where any debt securities may be surrendered for conversion or exchange;

whether any of the debt securities are to be redeemable at Comerica's option and, if so, the date or dates on which, the period or periods within which, the price or prices at which and the other terms and conditions upon which they may be redeemed, in whole or in part;

whether Comerica will be obligated to redeem or purchase any of the debt securities pursuant to any sinking fund or analogous provision or at the holder's option, and, if so, the dates or prices and the other terms on which the debt securities must be redeemed or purchased pursuant to this obligation and any provisions for the remarketing of the debt securities so redeemed or purchased;

if other than denominations of \$2,000 and any integral multiple of \$1,000, the denominations in which any debt securities will be issuable;

whether the debt securities will be convertible into Comerica common or preferred stock and/or exchangeable for other securities, whether or not issued by Comerica and, if so, the terms and conditions upon which the debt securities will be convertible or exchangeable;

if other than the principal amount, the portion of the principal amount, or the method by which the portion will be determined, of the debt securities that will be payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity of the debt securities;

if other than United States dollars, the currency of payment in which the principal of, any premium or interest on the debt securities will be paid;

whether the principal of, any premium or interest on the debt securities will be payable, at Comerica's or the holder's election, in a currency other than that in which the debt securities are stated to be payable, and the dates and the other terms upon which this election may be made;

any index, formula or other method used to determine the amount of principal of, any premium or interest on the debt securities;

whether the debt securities are to be issued in the form of one or more global securities and, if so, the identity of the depositary for the global security or securities;

whether the debt securities are senior or subordinated and, if subordinated, the applicable subordination provisions;

in the case of subordinated debt securities, the relative degree, if any, to which the subordinated debt securities will be senior to or be subordinated to other series of subordinated debt securities or other indebtedness of Comerica in right of payment, whether the other series of subordinated debt securities or other indebtedness is outstanding or not;

any deletions from, modifications of or additions to the events of default or covenants of Comerica;

whether the provisions described below under *Discharge, Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance* will be applicable to the debt securities;

whether any of the debt securities are to be issued upon the exercise of warrants and the time, manner and place for the debt securities to be authenticated and delivered; and

any other terms of the debt securities and any other deletions from or modifications or additions to the applicable indenture. Comerica will have the ability under the indentures to reopen a previously issued series of debt securities and issue additional debt securities of that series or establish additional terms of that series. Comerica is also permitted to issue debt securities with the same terms as previously issued debt securities.

Table of Contents

Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, Comerica will only issue the debt securities in fully registered form without coupons in minimum denominations of \$2,000 and any integral multiple of \$1,000.

Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, principal of, premium and interest on the debt securities will initially be payable at the corporate trust office of the trustee or any other office or agency designated by us.

Interest on debt securities may be paid by check mailed to the persons entitled to the payments at their addresses appearing on the security register or by transfer to an account maintained by the payee with a bank located in the United States and will be payable on any interest payment date to the persons in whose names the debt securities are registered at the close of business on the regular record date with respect to the interest payment date.

Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, the trustee with respect to the debt securities will act as the paying agent. Comerica may designate additional paying agents, rescind the designation of any paying agent or approve a change in the office through which any paying agent acts.

Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, holders may present the debt securities for transfer, duly endorsed or accompanied by a written instrument of transfer if so required by Comerica or the security registrar, or exchange for other debt securities of the same series containing identical terms and provisions, in any authorized denominations, and of a like aggregate principal amount, in each case at the office or agency maintained by Comerica for this purpose, which will initially be the corporate trust office of the trustee. Any transfer or exchange will be made without service charge, although Comerica may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge and any other expenses then payable. Comerica is not required to issue, register the transfer of, or exchange debt securities during a period beginning at the opening of business 15 days before the day of mailing of a notice of redemption of any debt securities and ending at the close of business on the day of mailing or register the transfer of or exchange any debt security selected for redemption, in whole or in part, except the unredeemed portion of any debt security being redeemed in part.

The debt securities may be issued as original issue discount securities, which means that they will bear no interest or bear interest at a rate which, at the time of issuance, is below market rates. debt securities issued as original issue discount securities will be sold at a substantial discount below their principal amount. U.S. Federal income tax and other considerations applicable to original issue discount securities will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

If the purchase price, or the principal of, or any premium or interest on, any debt securities is payable in, or if any debt securities are denominated in, one or more foreign currencies or currency units, the restrictions, elections, U.S. Federal income tax considerations, specific terms and other information will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Conversion and Exchange

The terms, if any, on which debt securities are convertible into or exchangeable for, either mandatorily or at Comerica's or the holder's option, property or cash, common stock, preferred stock or other securities, whether or not issued by Comerica, or a combination of any of these, will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Global Securities

The debt securities may be issued, in whole or in part, in the form of one or more global securities that will be deposited with, or on behalf of, a depositary identified in the applicable prospectus supplement and registered in the name of the depositary or its nominee. Interests in any global debt security will be shown on, and transfers of the debt securities will be effected only through, records maintained by the depositary and its participants. The specific terms of the depositary arrangement will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

Subordination

The subordinated debt securities will be unsecured obligations of Comerica, will rank subordinated and junior in right of payment to all Senior Debt (as defined below) of Comerica and will rank equally with all other unsecured and subordinated indebtedness of Comerica, whether existing at the time of issuance or created thereafter, other than subordinated indebtedness which is designated as junior to the subordinated debt securities.

If Comerica defaults in the payment of any principal of, or premium, if any, or interest on any Senior Debt when it becomes due and payable after any applicable grace period, then, unless and until the default is cured or waived or ceases to exist, Comerica cannot make a payment on account of or redeem or otherwise acquire the subordinated debt securities. Nevertheless, holders of subordinated debt securities may still receive and retain:

securities of Comerica or any other corporation provided for by a plan of reorganization or readjustment that are subordinate, at least to the same extent that the subordinated debt securities are subordinate to Senior Indebtedness; and

payments made from a defeasance trust as described below.

If there is any insolvency, bankruptcy, liquidation or other similar proceeding relating to Comerica, its creditors or its property, then all Senior Indebtedness must be paid in full before any payment may be made to any holders of subordinated debt securities. Holders of subordinated debt securities must return and deliver any payments received by them, other than in a plan of reorganization or through a defeasance trust as described below, directly to the holders of Senior Indebtedness until all Senior Indebtedness is paid in full.

Senior Debt means:

- (1) obligations for money borrowed,
 - (2) obligations evidenced by bonds, debentures, notes or other similar instruments, including obligations incurred in connection with the acquisition of property, assets or businesses,
 - (3) reimbursement obligations with respect to letters of credit, bankers' acceptances or similar facilities,
 - (4) obligations issued or assumed as the deferred purchase price of property or services,
 - (5) capital lease obligations,
 - (6) obligations for claims in respect of derivative products such as interest and foreign exchange rate contracts, commodity contracts, options and swaps and similar arrangements, and
 - (7) obligations of the type referred to in clauses (1) through (6) of another person and all dividends of another person the payment of which, in either case, Comerica has guaranteed or is responsible or liable, directly or indirectly, as obligor or otherwise.
- but Senior Debt does not include (1) any obligations which, by their terms, are expressly stated to rank *pari passu* in right of payment with, or to not be superior in right of payment to, the subordinated debt securities, (2) any obligations of Comerica which when incurred and without respect to any election under applicable bankruptcy law was without recourse to Comerica, (3) any obligations of Comerica to any of its

Edgar Filing: COMERICA INC /NEW/ - Form 424B5

subsidiaries, (4) obligations of Comerica to any employee (5) any obligations in respect of debt securities issued to any trust, or a trustee of such trust, partnership or other entity affiliated with Comerica that is a financing entity of Comerica in connection with the issuance by such financing entity of capital securities, or (f) trade accounts payable or accrued liabilities arising in the ordinary course of business.

Events of Default, Waiver

An Event of Default with respect to a series of debt securities is defined in the indentures as:

default for 30 days in the payment of interest on any debt securities of that series;

Table of Contents

default in payment of principal or other amounts payable on any debt securities of that series when due, at maturity, upon redemption, by declaration, or otherwise;

failure by Comerica for 90 days after notice to perform any other covenants or warranties contained in the Indenture applicable to that series;

certain events of bankruptcy or reorganization of Comerica; and

any other event of default provided in the applicable supplemental indentures or form of security.

If a default in the payment of principal, interest or other amounts payable on the debt securities, or in the performance of any covenant or agreement, or in a manner provided in the applicable supplemental indenture or form of security, with respect to one or more series of debt securities occurs and is continuing, either the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the debt securities of such series then outstanding, treated as one class, may declare the principal of all outstanding debt securities of such series and any interest accrued thereon, to be due and payable immediately. If a default arising out of certain events of bankruptcy or reorganization of Comerica occurs, the principal of all outstanding debt securities and any interest accrued thereon shall become due and payable immediately without any further action on the part of the trustee or the holders of the debt securities. In the case of Original Issue Discount Securities, only a specified portion of the principal amount may be accelerated. If a default in the performance of any covenant or agreement with respect to all series of debt securities, or due to specified events of bankruptcy or insolvency of Comerica, occurs and is continuing, either the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of all debt securities then outstanding, voting as a single class, may declare the principal of all outstanding debt securities and any interest accrued thereon, to be due and payable immediately. In the case of Original Issue Discount Securities, only a specified portion of the principal amount may be accelerated. Subject to certain conditions such declarations may be annulled and past defaults, except for uncured payment defaults on the debt securities, may be waived by the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of the series affected.

An Event of Default with respect to one series of debt securities does not necessarily constitute an Event of Default with respect to any other series of debt securities. The indentures provide that the trustee may withhold notice to the holders of the debt securities of any default if the trustee considers it in the interest of the holders of the debt securities to do so. The trustee may not withhold notice of a default in the payment of principal of, interest on or any other amounts due under, such debt securities.

The indentures provide that the holders of a majority in principal amount of outstanding debt securities of any series may direct the time, method, and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee, or exercising any trust or other power conferred on the trustee. The trustee may decline to act if the direction is contrary to law and in certain other circumstances set forth in the applicable indenture. The trustee is not obligated to exercise any of its rights or powers under the applicable indenture at the request or direction of the holders of debt securities unless the holders offer the trustee reasonable indemnity against expenses and liabilities.

No holder of any debt security of any series has the right to institute any action for remedy unless such holder has previously given to the trustee written notice of default and the trustee has failed to take action for 60 days after the holders of not less than 25% in principal amount of the debt securities of such series make written request upon the trustee to institute such action.

The indentures require Comerica to file annually with the trustee a written statement of no default, or specifying any default that exists.

Whenever the indentures provide for an action by, or the determination of any of the rights of, or any distribution to, holders of debt securities, in the absence of any provision to the contrary in the form of debt security, any amount in respect of any debt security denominated in a currency or currency unit other than U.S. dollars may be treated for any such action or distribution as the amount of U.S. dollars that could reasonably be

Table of Contents

exchanged for such non U.S. dollar amount. This amount will be calculated as of a date that Comerica specifies to the trustee or, if Comerica fails to specify a date, on a date that the trustee may determine.

Discharge, Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance

Discharge of Indenture. The Indenture will cease to be of further effect with respect to debt securities of any series, except as to rights of registration of transfer and exchange, substitution of mutilated or defaced debt securities, rights of holders to receive principal, interest or other amounts payable under the debt securities, rights and immunities of the trustee and rights of holders with respect to property deposited pursuant to the following provisions, if at any time:

Comerica has paid the principal, interest or other amounts payable under the debt securities of such series;

Comerica has delivered to the trustee for cancellation all debt securities of such series; or

the debt securities of such series not delivered to the trustee for cancellation have become due and payable, or will become due and payable within one year, or are to be called for redemption within one year under arrangements satisfactory to the trustee, and Comerica has irrevocably deposited with the trustee as trust funds the entire amount in cash or U.S. government obligations sufficient to pay all amounts due with respect to such debt securities on or after the date of such deposit, including at maturity or upon redemption of all such debt securities, including principal, interest and other amounts.

The trustee, on demand of Comerica accompanied by an Officers Certificate and an Opinion of Counsel and at the cost and expense of Comerica, will execute proper instruments acknowledging such satisfaction of and discharging the Indenture with respect to such series.

Defeasance of a Series of Senior Debt Securities at Any Time. Comerica may also discharge all of its obligations, other than as to transfers and exchanges, under any series of senior debt securities at any time, which is referred to as defeasance .

Comerica may be released with respect to any outstanding series of debt securities from the obligations imposed by the senior indenture, that contains the covenant described below limiting consolidations, mergers and asset sales, and elect not to comply with that provision without creating an event of default. Discharge under these procedures is called covenant defeasance .

Defeasance or covenant defeasance may be effected only if, among other things:

Comerica irrevocably deposits with the trustee cash or, in the case of senior debt securities payable only in U.S. dollars, U.S. government obligations, as trust funds in an amount certified to be sufficient to pay on each date that they become due and payable, the principal of, interest on, other amounts due under, and any mandatory sinking fund payments for, all outstanding senior debt securities of the series being defeased;

Comerica delivers to the trustee an opinion of counsel to the effect that:

the beneficial owners of the series of senior debt securities being defeased will not recognize income, gain or loss for United States federal income tax purposes as a result of the defeasance or covenant defeasance; and

the defeasance or covenant defeasance will not otherwise alter those beneficial owners United States federal income tax treatment of principal or interest payments or other amounts due under the series of senior debt securities being defeased;

Table of Contents

in the case of a defeasance, this opinion must be based on a ruling of the Internal Revenue Service or a change in United States federal income tax law occurring after the date of this prospectus, since that result would not occur under current tax law; and

such defeasance or covenant defeasance will not result in a breach or violation of, or constitute a default under, the senior indenture or any other agreement or instrument to which Comerica is a party or by which Comerica is bound.

Modification of the Indenture; Waiver of Compliance

Each indenture contain provisions permitting Comerica and the trustee to modify the indenture or the rights of the holders of debt securities with the consent of the holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of each outstanding series of debt securities affected by the modification. Each holder of an affected debt security must consent to a modification that would:

change the stated maturity date of the principal of, or of any installment of principal of or interest on, any debt security;

reduce the principal amount of, interest on, or any other amounts due under any debt security;

change the currency or currency unit of payment of any debt security;

change the method in which amounts of payments of principal, interest or other amounts are determined on any debt security;

reduce the portion of the principal amount of an Original Issue Discount Security payable upon acceleration of the maturity thereof;

reduce any amount payable upon redemption of any debt security;

impair the right of a holder to institute suit for the payment of or, if the debt securities provide, any right of repayment at the option of the holder of a debt security;

reduce the percentage of debt securities of any series, the consent of the holders of which is required for any modification; or

with respect to the subordinated indenture only, modify the provisions with respect to the subordination of the subordinated debt securities in a manner adverse to the holders.

Each indenture also permits Comerica and the trustee to amend the indenture in certain circumstances without the consent of the holders of debt securities to evidence Comerica's merger, the replacement of the trustee, to effect changes that do not affect any outstanding series of debt security, and for certain other purposes.

Consolidations, Mergers and Sales of Assets

Comerica may not merge or consolidate with any other corporation or sell or convey all or substantially all of its assets to any other corporation, unless either:

Edgar Filing: COMERICA INC /NEW/ - Form 424B5

Comerica is the continuing corporation or the successor corporation is a United States corporation that expressly assumes the payment of the principal of, any interest on, or any other amounts due under the debt securities and the performance and observance of all the covenants and conditions of the Indenture binding upon us, and

Comerica or the successor corporation shall not, immediately after the merger or consolidation, sale or conveyance, be in default in the performance of any covenant or condition. (Article 9 of the Indenture)

There are no covenants or other provisions in the indentures that would afford holders of debt securities additional protection in the event of a recapitalization transaction, a change of control of Comerica or a highly leveraged transaction. The merger covenant described above would only apply if the recapitalization transaction,

Table of Contents

change of control or highly leveraged transaction were structured to include a merger or consolidation of Comerica, or a sale or conveyance of all or substantially all of its assets. However, Comerica may provide specific protections, such as a put right or increased interest, for particular debt securities, that Comerica would describe in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Governing Law

The indentures and debt securities will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF THE WARRANTS TO PURCHASE

COMMON STOCK OR PREFERRED STOCK

The following summary sets forth the material terms and provisions of the common stock warrants and preferred stock warrants, that would be issued pursuant to a stock warrant agreement between Comerica and a stock warrant agent to be selected at the time of issue. The stock warrant agreement may include or incorporate by reference standard warrant provisions substantially in the form of the standard stock warrant provisions, that is filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

General

The stock warrants may be issued under the stock warrant agreement independently or together with any other securities offered by a prospectus supplement. If stock warrants are offered, the applicable prospectus supplement will describe the designation and terms of the stock warrants, including, without limitation, the following:

the offering price, if any;

the designation and terms of the common stocks or preferred stocks purchasable upon exercise of the stock warrants;

if applicable, the date on and after which the stock warrants and the related offered securities will be separately transferable;

the number of common stocks or preferred stocks purchasable upon exercise of one stock warrant and the initial price at which shares may be purchased upon exercise of the stock warrant;

the date on which the right to exercise the stock warrants shall commence and the date on which these rights shall expire;

a discussion of the material U.S. Federal income tax considerations;

any call provisions;

the currency in which the offering price, if any, and exercise price are payable;

the anti-dilution provisions of the stock warrants; and

any other terms of the stock warrants.

The shares of common stock or preferred stock issuable upon exercise of the stock warrants will, when issued in accordance with the stock warrant agreement, be fully paid and non-assessable. This means that the shares will be paid for in full at the time they are issued, and, once they are paid for in full, there will be no further liability for further assessments or taxation.

Exercise of Stock Warrants

Edgar Filing: COMERICA INC /NEW/ - Form 424B5

You may exercise your stock warrants by surrendering to the stock warrant agent your stock warrant certificate with the form of election to purchase on the reverse of the certificate properly completed and executed by you, or your authorized agent, which signature must be guaranteed by a bank or trust company, by a broker or dealer which is a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (FINRA) or by a member of a national securities exchange. You must indicate on the form of election whether you are electing to exercise all or a portion of the stock warrants evidenced by the certificate. You must also submit a payment of the aggregate exercise price of the stock warrants to be exercised in lawful money of the United States along with your stock warrant certificates, unless otherwise set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Upon receipt of the stock warrant certificate, form of election and aggregate payment, if applicable, by the stock warrant agent, the stock warrant agent will requisition from the transfer agent for the common stocks or the preferred stocks, as the case

Table of Contents

may be, a certificate representing the number of common stocks or preferred stocks purchased for issuance and delivery to you or upon your written order. If you exercise less than all of the stock warrants evidenced by any stock warrant certificate, the stock warrant agent shall deliver to you a new stock warrant certificate representing your unexercised stock warrants.

Anti-Dilution and Other Provisions

The exercise price payable, the number of shares of common stock or preferred stock purchasable upon the exercise of each stock warrant, and the number of stock warrants outstanding are subject to adjustment if specified events occur. These events include:

the issuance of a stock dividend to holders of shares of Comerica's common stock or preferred stock; and

a combination, subdivision or reclassification of Comerica's common stock or preferred stock.

In lieu of adjusting the number of shares of common stock or preferred stock purchasable upon exercise of each stock warrant, Comerica may elect to adjust the number of stock warrants. No adjustment in the number of shares purchasable upon exercise of the stock warrants will be required until cumulative adjustments require an adjustment of at least 1% in the number of shares purchasable. Comerica may also, at its option, reduce the exercise price at any time. No fractional shares will be issued upon exercise of stock warrants, but Comerica will pay the cash value of any fractional shares otherwise issuable. Notwithstanding the preceding sentences, in case of any consolidation, merger, or sale or conveyance of Comerica's property, Comerica in its entirety or substantially in its entirety, you, as a stock warrant holder, shall have the right to the kind and amount of shares of stock and other securities and property, including cash, receivable by a holder of the number of common stocks or preferred stocks into which your stock warrants were exercisable immediately prior to this event.

No Rights as Shareholders

You will not be entitled, by virtue of being a stock warrant holder, to vote, to consent, to receive dividends, to receive notice as shareholders with respect to any meeting of shareholders for the election of Comerica's directors or any other matter, or to exercise any rights whatsoever as shareholders of Comerica.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF THE WARRANTS TO PURCHASE DEBT SECURITIES

The following summary sets forth the material terms and provisions of the debt warrants, which would be issued pursuant to a debt warrant agreement between Comerica and a debt warrant agent to be selected at the time of issue. The debt warrant agreement may include or incorporate by reference standard warrant provisions substantially in the form of the standard debt warrant provisions, which is filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

General

The debt warrants may be issued under the debt warrant agreement independently or together with any other securities offered by a prospectus supplement. If debt warrants are offered, the applicable prospectus supplement will describe the designation and terms of the debt warrants, including, without limitation, the following:

the offering price, if any;

the designation, aggregate principal amount and terms of the debt securities purchasable upon exercise of the debt warrants;

if applicable, the date on and after which the debt warrants and the related offered securities will be separately transferable;

the principal amount of debt securities purchasable upon exercise of one debt warrant and the price at which the principal amount of debt securities may be purchased upon exercise of the debt warrant;

the date on which the right to exercise the debt warrants shall commence and the date on which this right shall expire;

a discussion of the material U.S. Federal income tax considerations;

whether the warrants represented by the debt warrant certificates will be issued in registered or bearer form;

the currency, currencies or currency units in which the offering price, if any, and exercise price are payable;

the anti-dilution provisions of the debt warrants; and

any other terms of the debt warrants.

You, as a debt warrant holder, will generally not have any of the rights of holders of Comerica debt securities, including the right to receive the payment of principal of, any premium or interest on, or any additional amounts with respect to, the Comerica debt securities or to enforce any of the covenants of the Comerica debt securities or the applicable Comerica indenture.

Exercise of Debt Warrants

You may exercise your debt warrants by surrendering at the office of the debt warrant agent your debt warrant certificate with the form of election to purchase on the reverse side of the certificate properly completed and signed by you, which signature must be guaranteed by a bank or trust company, by a broker or dealer which is a member of the NASD or by a member of a national securities exchange. You must also submit

Edgar Filing: COMERICA INC /NEW/ - Form 424B5

a payment in full of the exercise price, as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Upon the exercise of debt warrants, Comerica will issue the debt securities in authorized denominations in accordance with your instructions. If you exercise less than all of the debt warrants evidenced by your debt warrant certificate, a new debt warrant certificate will be issued for the remaining number of debt warrants.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF STOCK PURCHASE CONTRACTS AND STOCK PURCHASE UNITS

Comerica may issue stock purchase contracts, including contracts obligating holders to purchase from or sell to Comerica, and Comerica to sell to or purchase from the holders, a specified number of shares of common stock, shares of preferred stock or depositary shares at a future date or dates. The consideration per share of common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares and the number of shares of each may be fixed at the time the stock purchase contracts are issued or may be determined by reference to a specific formula set forth in the stock purchase contracts. The stock purchase contracts may be issued separately or as part of units, often known as stock purchase units, consisting of a stock purchase contract and any combination of:

debt securities,

capital securities issued by trusts, all of whose common securities are owned by Comerica or by one of its subsidiaries,

junior subordinated debt securities; or

debt obligations of third parties, including U.S. Treasury securities, which may secure the holders' obligations to purchase the common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares under the stock purchase contracts. The stock purchase contracts may require Comerica to make periodic payments to the holders of the stock purchase units or vice versa, and these payments may be unsecured or prefunded on some basis. The stock purchase contracts may require holders to secure their obligations under those contracts in a specified manner.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of the stock purchase contracts and stock purchase units, including, if applicable, collateral or depositary arrangements.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL SECURITIES AND GUARANTEES

Comerica Capital Trust III will be governed by an amended and restated trust agreement (the *trust agreement*), a form of which is incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. Under the trust agreement, Comerica Capital Trust III may issue, from time to time, only one series of capital securities with the terms set forth in the trust agreement or made a part of the trust agreement by the Trust Indenture Act, which terms will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. The terms of Comerica Capital Trust III capital securities will generally mirror the terms of the subordinated debt securities, which Comerica Capital Trust III will purchase with the proceeds from the sale of its capital securities and its common securities. The subordinated debt securities issued to Comerica Capital Trust III will be guaranteed by Comerica on a subordinated basis and are referred to in this prospectus as the corresponding subordinated debt securities relating to Comerica Capital Trust III.

Capital Securities

The following is a summary of the material terms and provisions of the trust agreement and the capital securities. You should refer to the form of amended and restated trust agreement and to the Trust Indenture Act for complete information regarding the terms and provisions of the trust agreement and of the capital securities.

Issuance, Status and Guarantee of Capital Securities

The capital securities will represent preferred beneficial interests in Comerica Capital Trust III and you, as holders of the capital securities, will be entitled to a preference in specified circumstances, including as regards distributions and amounts payable on redemption or liquidation over the common securities of Comerica Capital Trust III. The capital securities of Comerica Capital Trust III will rank equally, and payments will be made on the capital securities pro rata, with the common securities of the trust, except as described under *Subordination of Common Securities* below. The property trustee will hold legal title to the corresponding subordinated debt securities in trust for your benefit and for the benefit of the holder of Comerica Capital Trust III's common securities. The common securities and the capital securities of Comerica Capital Trust III are collectively referred to as the *trust securities*.

Comerica will guarantee (the *capital securities guarantee*) the capital securities. Under the capital securities guarantee, Comerica will guarantee, on a subordinated basis, payment of distributions on the related capital securities and amounts payable on redemption or liquidation of the related capital securities, but only to the extent that Comerica Capital Trust III has funds to make these payments.

Distributions

Distributions on the capital securities will accumulate from the original issue date and will be payable on the dates specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. If any date on which these distributions are payable is not a business day, payment of the distribution payable on that date will be made on the next succeeding business day without any additional distributions or other payment in respect of the delay. However, if the next succeeding business day is in the next succeeding calendar year, payment of the distribution will be made on the immediately preceding business day, in each case as if made on the date the payment was originally payable. Each date on which distributions are payable is referred to as a *distribution date*. A *business day* is any day other than a Saturday or a Sunday, or a day on which banking institutions in The City of New York are authorized or required by law or executive order to remain closed or a day on which the corporate trust office of the property trustee or the trustee for the corresponding subordinated debt securities is closed for business.

Distributions on the capital securities will be payable at the rate specified in the applicable prospectus supplement and the amount of distributions payable for any period will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. Distributions

Table of Contents

to which you are entitled will accumulate additional distributions at the rate per annum if and as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. References to distributions include any accumulated or additional distributions unless otherwise stated.

If set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, Comerica will have the right under the subordinated indenture to defer the payment of interest on any series of corresponding subordinated debt securities for the period specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. However, no extension period may extend beyond the stated maturity of the corresponding subordinated debt securities. As a consequence of any extension, distributions on the corresponding capital securities would be deferred but would continue to accumulate additional distributions at the rate set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, which rate will match the interest rate payable on the corresponding subordinated debt securities during the extension period, by Comerica Capital Trust III which issued the capital securities during any extension period.

The funds of Comerica Capital Trust III available for distribution to you will be limited to payments under the corresponding subordinated debt securities in which Comerica Capital Trust III will invest the proceeds from the issuance and sale of its trust securities. If Comerica does not make interest payments on those corresponding subordinated debt securities, the property trustee will not have funds available to pay distributions on the related capital securities. The payment of distributions, if and to the extent Comerica Capital Trust III has funds legally available for the payment of the distributions and cash sufficient to make the payments, is guaranteed by Comerica as set forth below.

Distributions on the capital securities will be payable to the holders of the capital securities as they appear on the register of Comerica Capital Trust III on the relevant record dates. As long as the capital securities remain in book-entry form, the record dates will be one business day prior to the relevant distribution dates. Generally, each distribution payment will be made as described under *Global Capital Securities*. If any capital securities are not in book-entry form, the relevant record date will be the date at least 15 days prior to the relevant distribution date, as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Redemption or Exchange

Mandatory Redemption. Upon any repayment or redemption, in whole or in part, of any corresponding subordinated debt securities held by Comerica Capital Trust III, the property trustee will simultaneously apply the proceeds from the repayment or redemption, upon not less than 30 nor more than 60 days notice to holders of trust securities, to redeem, on a pro rata basis, trust securities having an aggregate stated liquidation amount equal to the aggregate principal amount of the corresponding subordinated debt securities repaid or redeemed. The redemption price per trust security will be equal to its stated liquidation amount, plus any accumulated and unpaid distributions on the trust security to the redemption date, plus the related amount of premium, if any, and any additional amounts paid by Comerica upon the concurrent repayment or redemption of the corresponding subordinated debt securities. The amount described in the preceding sentence is referred to in this prospectus as the redemption price. If less than all of the corresponding subordinated debt securities are to be repaid or redeemed on a redemption date, then the property trustee shall allocate the proceeds from the repayment or redemption to the redemption pro rata of the related trust securities.

Generally, Comerica will have the right to redeem any series of corresponding subordinated debt securities at any time, in whole but not in part, upon the occurrence of a special event and subject to the conditions described in the prospectus supplement.

Special Event Redemption or Distribution of Corresponding Comerica Subordinated Debt Securities. If a special event relating to the trust securities of Comerica Capital Trust III occurs and is continuing, within 90 days following the occurrence of the special event, Comerica has the right to redeem the corresponding subordinated debt securities, in whole but not in part, and, in doing so, cause a mandatory redemption of the related trust securities, in whole but not in part, at the redemption price. At any time, Comerica has the right to dissolve

Table of Contents

Comerica Capital Trust III and, after satisfaction of the liabilities of creditors of Comerica Capital Trust III, cause the corresponding subordinated debt securities to be distributed to the holders of the trust securities in liquidation of Comerica Capital Trust III. If Comerica does not elect to redeem the corresponding subordinated debt securities upon the occurrence of a special event, the applicable trust securities will remain outstanding. If a tax event has occurred and is continuing, additional sums may be payable on the corresponding subordinated debt securities. For purposes of this section, additional sums means the additional amounts as may be necessary in order that the amount of distributions then due and payable by Comerica Capital Trust III on its outstanding trust securities shall not be reduced as a result of any additional taxes, duties and other governmental charges to which it has become subject as a result of a tax event.

On and from the date fixed for any distribution of corresponding subordinated debt securities upon dissolution of Comerica Capital Trust III:

the trust securities will no longer be deemed to be outstanding;

the depositary or its nominee, as the record holder of the related capital securities, will receive a registered global certificate or certificates representing the corresponding subordinated debt securities to be delivered upon the distribution, upon surrender of the related capital securities certificates for exchange; and

any certificates representing the capital securities, which is not surrendered for exchange will be deemed to represent beneficial interests in the corresponding subordinated debt securities having an aggregate principal amount equal to the aggregate stated liquidation amount of the capital securities and accruing interest at the rate provided for in the debt securities, which rate will equal the distribution rate on the capital securities, until the certificates are presented to the administrative trustees or their agent for exchange.

There can be no assurance as to the market prices for the capital securities or the corresponding subordinated debt securities that may be distributed in exchange for capital securities if a dissolution and liquidation of Comerica Capital Trust III were to occur. Accordingly, the capital securities that you may purchase, and the corresponding subordinated debt securities that you may receive on dissolution and liquidation of Comerica Capital Trust III, may trade at a discount to the price that you paid to purchase the capital securities.

Redemption Procedures

The property trustee shall redeem the capital securities on each redemption date at the redemption price with the applicable proceeds from the contemporaneous redemption of the corresponding subordinated debt securities. The property trustee will redeem the capital securities, and shall pay the redemption price, on each redemption date only to the extent that Comerica Capital Trust III has funds on hand available for the payment of the redemption price. See also *Subordination of Common Securities*.

If Comerica Capital Trust III gives a notice of redemption, which notice will be irrevocable, in respect of its capital securities, then, by 12:00 noon, New York City time, on the redemption date, to the extent funds are available, the property trustee will deposit irrevocably with the depositary for the capital securities funds sufficient to pay the applicable redemption price. The property trustee will also give the depositary irrevocable instructions and authority to pay the redemption price to you, as a holder of the capital securities. If the capital securities are no longer in book-entry form, the property trustee, to the extent funds are available, will irrevocably deposit with the paying agent for the capital securities funds sufficient to pay the applicable redemption price and will give the paying agent irrevocable instructions and authority to pay the redemption price to you upon surrender of your certificates evidencing the capital securities. Notwithstanding the preceding sentences, distributions payable on or prior to the redemption date for any capital securities called for redemption shall be payable to you on the relevant record date for the related distribution dates. If notice of redemption shall have been given and funds deposited as required, then, immediately prior to the close of business on the date of the deposit, all of your rights, as a holder of capital securities so called for redemption, will cease, except your

Table of Contents

right to receive the redemption price, but without interest, and your capital securities will cease to be outstanding. If any date on which any redemption price is payable is not a business day, then payment of the redemption price payable on that date will be made on the next succeeding business day without any interest or other payment in respect of the delay. However, if the next succeeding business day falls in the next calendar year, the payment will be made on the immediately preceding business day, in each case with the same force and effect as if made on the proper payment date. If that payment of the redemption price is improperly withheld or refused and not paid either by Comerica Capital Trust III or by Comerica pursuant to the capital securities guarantee as described under *Description of Capital Securities Guarantees*, distributions on the capital securities will continue to accumulate interest at the then applicable rate, from the redemption date originally established by Comerica Capital Trust III for the capital securities to the date the redemption price is actually paid, in which case the actual payment date will be the date fixed for redemption for purposes of calculating the redemption price.

Generally, Comerica or its subsidiaries, including Comerica, may purchase outstanding capital securities.

Payment of the redemption price on the capital securities will be made to the record holders as they appear on the register for the capital securities on the relevant record date, which will be one business day prior to the relevant redemption date. If any capital securities are not in book-entry form, the relevant record date for the capital securities will be a date at least 15 days prior to the redemption date, as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

The property trustee will allocate the aggregate liquidation amount pro rata to the trust securities based upon the relative liquidation amounts of the classes if less than all of the trust securities issued by Comerica Capital Trust III are to be redeemed on a redemption date. The property trustee will select on a pro rata basis not more than 60 days prior to the redemption date from the outstanding capital securities not previously called for redemption the particular capital securities to be redeemed by any method, including without limitation by lot, as it shall deem fair and appropriate. The property trustee will promptly notify the trust registrar in writing of the capital securities selected for redemption and, in the case of any capital securities selected for partial redemption, the liquidation amount of the capital securities to be redeemed. Generally, for purposes of the trust agreement, all provisions relating to the redemption of capital securities will relate, in the case of any capital securities redeemed or to be redeemed only in part, to the portion of the liquidation amount of capital securities which has been or is to be redeemed.

Notice of any redemption will be mailed at least 30 days but not more than 60 days before the redemption date to each holder of trust securities to be redeemed at its registered address. Unless each of Comerica and Comerica Capital Trust III defaults in payment of the redemption price on the corresponding subordinated debt securities, on and after the redemption date interest will cease to accrue on the subordinated debt securities or portions of the subordinated debt securities, and distributions will cease to accrue on the related capital securities or portions of the related capital securities, called for redemption.

Subordination of Common Securities

Payment on Comerica Capital Trust III's trust securities will be made pro rata based on the liquidation amount of the trust securities. However, if an event of default under the corresponding subordinated debt securities occurs and is continuing on any distribution date or redemption date, no payment of any distribution on, or redemption price of, any of Comerica Capital Trust III's common securities, and no other payment on account of the redemption, liquidation or other acquisition of the common securities, will be made unless payment in full in cash of all accumulated and unpaid distributions on all of Comerica Capital Trust III's outstanding capital securities for all distribution periods terminating on or prior to that date, or in the case of payment of the redemption price the full amount of the redemption price on all of the Comerica Capital Trust III's outstanding capital securities then called for redemption, have been made or provided for, and all funds available to the property trustee will first be applied to the payment in full in cash of all distributions on, or redemption price of, the Comerica Capital Trust III's capital securities then due and payable.

Table of Contents

If any event of default under the trust agreement resulting from a event of default under the corresponding subordinated debt securities occurs, the holder of the Comerica Capital Trust III's common securities will be deemed to have waived any right to act with respect to that event of default until the effect of all of the events of default with respect to the capital securities have been cured, waived or otherwise eliminated. Until these events of default have been so cured, waived or otherwise eliminated, the property trustee shall act solely on behalf of the holders of the capital securities and not on behalf of the holder of the Comerica Capital Trust III's common securities, and only the holders of the capital securities will have the right to direct the property trustee to act on their behalf.

Liquidation Distribution Upon Dissolution of Comerica Capital Trust III

Pursuant to the trust agreement, Comerica Capital Trust III will automatically dissolve upon expiration of its term and will dissolve on the first to occur of:

bankruptcy, dissolution or liquidation of Comerica;

the written direction to the property trustee from Comerica, as holder of common securities, at any time, which direction is optional and wholly within the discretion of Comerica, to dissolve Comerica Capital Trust III and distribute corresponding subordinated debt securities having an aggregate principal amount equal to the aggregate stated liquidation amount of the trust securities to the holders of the trust securities in exchange for the trust securities;

the redemption of all of Comerica Capital Trust III's capital securities in connection with the redemption of all corresponding subordinated debt securities; and

the entry of an order for the dissolution of Comerica Capital Trust III by a court of competent jurisdiction.

If an early dissolution occurs as described in the first, second and fifth bullets above or upon the date designated for automatic dissolution of Comerica Capital Trust III, Comerica Capital Trust III will be liquidated by the Comerica Capital Trust III Trustees as expeditiously as the Comerica Capital Trust III Trustees determine to be possible by distributing to the holders of the trust securities, after satisfaction of liabilities to the Comerica Capital Trust III's creditors, corresponding subordinated debt securities having an aggregate principal amount equal to the aggregate stated liquidation amount of the trust securities. However, if the property trustee determines that this distribution is not practical, the holders will be entitled to receive out of the Comerica Capital Trust III's assets available for distribution, after satisfaction of liabilities to the Comerica Capital Trust III's creditors, an amount equal to, in the case of holders of capital securities, the aggregate of the liquidation amount plus accumulated and unpaid distributions on the trust securities to the date of payment, this amount being referred to in this prospectus as the liquidation distribution. If the liquidation distribution can be paid only in part because Comerica Capital Trust III has insufficient assets available to pay in full the aggregate liquidation distribution, then the amounts payable directly by Comerica Capital Trust III on its capital securities will be paid on a pro rata basis. The holder of the Comerica Capital Trust III's common securities will be entitled to receive distributions upon any liquidation pro rata with the holders of its capital securities, except that if an event of default under the corresponding subordinated debt securities has occurred and is continuing, the capital securities shall have a priority over the common securities.

Events of Default; Notice

The following constitute an event of default under the trust agreement with respect to the applicable capital securities:

the occurrence of an event of default on the corresponding subordinated debt securities (see *Description of Debt Securities Events of Default*);

default by Comerica Capital Trust III in the payment of any distribution when it becomes due and payable, and continuation of this default for a period of 30 days;

Table of Contents

default by Comerica Capital Trust III in the payment of any redemption price of any trust security when it becomes due and payable;

default in the performance, or breach, in any material respect, of any covenant or warranty of the Comerica Capital Trust III Trustees in the trust agreement, other than a covenant or warranty a default in the performance or breach those covenants in the preceding two bullets, and continuation of the default or breach for a period of 60 days after the holders of at least 25% in aggregate liquidation preference of the outstanding capital securities of Comerica Capital Trust III have given written notice specifying the default or breach, requiring it to be remedied and stating that the notice is a Notice of Default under the trust agreement, by registered or certified mail to the defaulting Comerica Capital Trust III Trustee(s); and

the occurrence of specified events of bankruptcy or insolvency with respect to the property trustee and the failure by Comerica, as depositor, to appoint a successor property trustee within 90 days of the occurrence.

Within 90 business days after the occurrence of any event of default actually known to the property trustee, the property trustee will transmit notice of the event of default to the holders of the applicable capital securities, the administrative trustees and Comerica, as depositor, unless the event of default has been cured or waived. Comerica, as depositor, and the administrative trustees are required to file annually with the property trustee a certificate as to whether or not they are in compliance with all the conditions and covenants applicable to them under the trust agreement.

If an event of default under the corresponding subordinated debt securities has occurred and is continuing, the capital securities shall have a preference over the common securities upon dissolution of Comerica Capital Trust III as described above. See *Liquidation Distribution Upon Dissolution of Comerica Capital Trust III*. The existence of an event of default under the trust agreement does not entitle the holders of capital securities to accelerate the maturity of the capital securities.

Removal of Comerica Capital Trust III Trustees

Unless an event of default under the corresponding subordinated debt securities has occurred and is continuing, any Comerica Capital Trust III Trustee may be removed at any time by the holder of the Comerica Capital Trust III s common securities. If an event of default under the corresponding subordinated debt securities has occurred and is continuing, the property trustee and the Delaware trustee may be removed by the holders of a majority in liquidation amount of the outstanding capital securities. In no event will the holders of the capital securities have the right to vote to appoint, remove or replace the administrative trustees, which voting rights are vested exclusively in the holder of the Comerica Capital Trust III s common securities. No resignation or removal of a Comerica Capital Trust III Trustee and no appointment of a successor trustee shall be effective until the acceptance of appointment by the successor trustee in accordance with the provisions of the applicable trust agreement.

Co-Trustees and Separate Property Trustee

Unless an event of default shall have occurred and be continuing, for the purpose of meeting the legal requirements of the Trust Indenture Act or of any jurisdiction in which any part of the property of Comerica Capital Trust III may at the time be located, Comerica, as depositor, and the administrative trustees shall have power, at any time or times, to appoint one or more persons either to act as a co-trustee jointly with the property trustee of all or any part of the property of Comerica Capital Trust III or to act as separate trustee of any property, in either case with the powers as may be provided in the instrument of appointment. Comerica, as depositor, and the administrative trustees shall generally also have the power to vest in that person or persons in that capacity any property, title, right or power deemed necessary or desirable. If an event of default under the corresponding subordinated debt securities has occurred and is continuing, the property trustee alone shall have power to make this appointment.

Table of Contents

Merger or Consolidation of Comerica Capital Trust III Trustees

Any corporation into which the property trustee, the Delaware trustee or any administrative trustee that is not a natural person may be merged or converted or with which it may be consolidated, or any corporation resulting from any merger, conversion or consolidation to which the Comerica Capital Trust III Trustee shall be a party, shall be the successor of the Comerica Capital Trust III Trustee under the trust agreement, so long as the corporation is otherwise qualified and eligible.

Mergers, Consolidations, Amalgamations or Replacements of Comerica Capital Trust III

Comerica Capital Trust III may not merge with or into, convert into, consolidate, amalgamate, or be replaced by, or convey, transfer or lease its properties and assets substantially as an entirety to any corporation or other entity, except as described below or as described in *Liquidation Distribution Upon Dissolution of Comerica Capital Trust III*. Comerica Capital Trust III may, at the request of Comerica, with the consent of the holders of a majority of the capital securities, merge with or into, convert into, consolidate, amalgamate, or be replaced by or convey, transfer or lease its properties and assets substantially as an entirety to a trust organized as such under the laws of any state so long as the following conditions are met:

the successor entity either: expressly assumes all of the obligations of Comerica Capital Trust III with respect to the capital securities or substitutes for the capital securities other securities having substantially the same terms as the capital securities, referred to in this prospectus as the successor securities, so long as the successor securities rank the same as the capital securities rank in priority with respect to distributions and payments upon liquidation, redemption and otherwise;

Comerica expressly appoints a trustee of the successor entity possessing the same powers and duties as the property trustee as the holder of the corresponding subordinated debt securities;

the successor securities are listed or traded, or any successor securities will be listed upon notification of issuance, on any national securities exchange or other organization on which the capital securities are then listed or traded, if any;

the merger, conversion, consolidation, amalgamation, replacement, conveyance, transfer or lease does not cause the capital securities, including any successor securities, to be downgraded by any nationally recognized statistical rating organization;

the merger, conversion, consolidation, amalgamation, replacement, conveyance, transfer or lease does not adversely affect the rights, preferences and privileges of the holders of the capital securities, including any successor securities, in any material respect;

the successor entity has a purpose substantially identical to that of Comerica Capital Trust III; and

prior to the merger, conversion, consolidation, amalgamation, replacement, conveyance, transfer or lease, Comerica has received an opinion from independent counsel to Comerica Capital Trust III to the effect that:

the merger, conversion, consolidation, amalgamation, replacement, conveyance, transfer or lease does not adversely affect the rights, preferences and privileges of the holders of the capital securities, including any successor securities, in any material respect,

Edgar Filing: COMERICA INC /NEW/ - Form 424B5

following the merger, conversion, consolidation, amalgamation, replacement, conveyance, transfer or lease, neither Comerica Capital Trust III nor any successor entity will be required to register as an investment company under the Investment Company Act; and

Comerica or any permitted successor or assignee owns all of the common securities of the successor entity and guarantees the obligations of the successor entity under the successor securities at least to the extent provided by the capital securities guarantee.

Notwithstanding the preceding description, Comerica Capital Trust III shall not, except with the consent of holders of 100% in liquidation amount of the capital securities, consolidate, amalgamate, merge with or into,

Table of Contents

convert into, or be replaced by or convey, transfer or lease its properties and assets substantially as an entirety to any other entity or permit any other entity to consolidate, amalgamate, merge with or into, convert into, or replace it if the consolidation, amalgamation, merger, replacement, conveyance, transfer or lease would cause Comerica Capital Trust III or the successor entity to be classified as other than a grantor trust for U.S. Federal income tax purposes.

Voting and Preemptive Rights

Except as provided below and under *Removal of Comerica Capital Trustees*, *Description of Comerica Debt Securities and Comerica Guarantee Events of Default*, *Description of Capital Securities Guarantees Amendments and Assignment*, the holders of the capital securities will generally not have any voting rights. Holders of the capital securities have no preemptive or similar rights.

Amendment of Restated Trust Agreement

The trust agreement may be amended by Comerica and the Comerica Capital Trust III Trustees, without the consent of the holders of the trust securities:

to cure any ambiguity, correct or supplement any provisions in the trust agreement that may be inconsistent with any other provision, or to make any other provisions with respect to matters or questions arising under the trust agreement, which shall not be inconsistent with the other provisions of the trust agreement, or

to modify, eliminate or add to any provisions of the trust agreement to the extent as shall be necessary to ensure that Comerica Capital Trust III will be classified for U.S. Federal income tax purposes as a grantor trust at all times that any trust securities are outstanding or to ensure that Comerica Capital Trust III will not be required to register as an investment company under the Investment Company Act;

provided however, that any such action will not adversely affect in any material respect the interests of any holder of trust securities. Any such amendments of the trust agreement adopted accordingly will become effective when notice of the amendment is given to the holders of trust securities of Comerica Capital Trust III.

The trust agreement may be amended by the Comerica Capital Trust III Trustees and Comerica with the consent of holders representing not less than a majority, based upon liquidation amounts, of the outstanding trust securities and receipt by the Comerica Capital Trust III Trustees of an opinion of counsel to the effect that the amendment or the exercise of any power granted to the Comerica Capital Trust III Trustees in accordance with the amendment will not affect Comerica Capital Trust III's status as a grantor trust for U.S. Federal income tax purposes or Comerica Capital Trust III's exemption from status as an investment company under the Investment Company Act. However, without the consent of each holder of trust securities, the trust agreement may not be amended to:

change the amount or timing of any distribution on the trust securities or otherwise adversely affect the amount of any distribution required to be made in respect of the trust securities as of a specified date; or

restrict the right of a holder of trust securities to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment on or after the date.

So long as any corresponding subordinated debt securities are held by the property trustee, the Comerica Capital Trust III Trustees shall not:

direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee under the subordinated indenture, or executing any trust or power conferred on that trustee with respect to the corresponding subordinated debt securities;

Table of Contents

waive any past default that is waivable under the subordinated indenture, as described in *Description of the Comerica Debt Securities and Comerica Guarantee Modification and Waiver* ;

exercise any right to rescind or annul a declaration that the principal of all the subordinated debt securities shall be due and payable; or

consent to any amendment, modification or termination of the subordinated indenture or the corresponding subordinated debt securities, where the consent shall be required,

without, in each case, obtaining the prior approval of the holders of a majority in aggregate liquidation amount of all outstanding capital securities.

However, where a consent under the subordinated indenture would require the consent of each holder of the affected corresponding subordinated debt securities, no consent shall be given by the property trustee without the prior consent of each holder of the corresponding preferred securities. The Comerica Capital Trust III Trustees shall not revoke any action previously authorized or approved by a vote of the holders of the capital securities except by subsequent vote of the holders of the capital securities. The property trustee shall notify each holder of capital securities of any notice of default with respect to the corresponding subordinated debt securities. In addition to obtaining these approvals of the holders of the capital securities, prior to taking any of these actions, the Comerica Capital Trust III Trustees shall obtain an opinion of counsel to the effect that Comerica Capital Trust III will not be classified as an association taxable as a corporation for U.S. Federal income tax purposes on account of that action.

Any required approval or action of holders of capital securities may be given or taken at a meeting of holders of capital securities convened for that purpose or pursuant to written consent. The property trustee will cause a notice of any meeting at which holders of capital securities are entitled to vote to be given to each holder of record of capital securities.

No vote or consent of the holders of capital securities will be required for Comerica Capital Trust III to redeem and cancel its capital securities in accordance with the applicable trust agreement.

Even though the holders of capital securities are entitled to vote or consent under any of the circumstances described above, any of the capital securities that are owned by Comerica, the Comerica Capital Trust III Trustees or any affiliate of Comerica or any Comerica Capital Trust III Trustees shall, for purposes of the vote or consent, be treated as if they were not outstanding.

Global Capital Securities

The capital securities of Comerica Capital Trust III may be issued, in whole or in part, in the form of one or more global capital securities that will be deposited with, or on behalf of, the depository. The depository and the specific terms of the depository arrangement with respect to the capital securities of Comerica Capital Trust III will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Payment and Paying Agency

Payments of distributions in respect of the capital securities shall be made to the depository, which shall credit the relevant accounts at the depository on the applicable distribution dates. However, if Comerica Capital Trust III's capital securities are not held by the depository, these payments shall be made by check mailed to the address of the holder entitled to the payments as it shall appear on the register of Comerica Capital Trust III.

Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, the paying agent shall initially be [Name of Trustee] and any co-paying agent chosen by [Name of Trustee] and acceptable to the administrative trustees and Comerica. The paying agent shall be permitted to resign as paying agent upon 30 days' written notice to the administrative trustees, the property trustee and Comerica. If [Name of Trustee] shall no longer be the paying agent, the administrative trustees shall appoint a successor, which shall be a bank or trust company acceptable to the administrative trustees and Comerica, to act as paying agent.

Table of Contents

Registrar and Transfer Agent

The registrar and transfer agent for the capital securities will be named in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Registration of transfers and exchanges of capital securities will be effected without charge by or on behalf of Comerica Capital Trust III. However, the holders must pay any tax or other governmental charges that may be imposed in connection with any transfer or exchange. Comerica Capital Trust III will not be required to register or cause to be registered the transfer of their capital securities after the capital securities have been called for redemption.

Information Concerning the Property Trustee

The property trustee undertakes to perform only those duties specifically set forth in the trust agreement. However, the property trustee must exercise the same degree of care as a prudent person would exercise in the conduct of his or her own affairs. Subject to the preceding sentence, the property trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of the powers vested in it by the applicable trust agreement at the request of any holder of capital securities unless it is offered reasonable indemnity against the costs, expenses and liabilities that it might incur. If, in performing its duties under the trust agreement, the property trustee is required to decide between alternative causes of action, construe ambiguous provisions in the applicable trust agreement or is unsure of the application of any provision of the applicable trust agreement, and the matter is not one on which holders of capital securities are entitled under the trust agreement to vote, then the property trustee shall take the action as is directed by Comerica. Otherwise, the property trustee shall take the action as it deems advisable and in the best interests of the holders of the trust securities and will have no liability except for its own bad faith, negligence or willful misconduct.

Administrative Trustees

The administrative trustees are authorized and directed to conduct the affairs of and to operate Comerica Capital Trust III in such a way that:

Comerica Capital Trust III will not be deemed to be an investment company required to be registered under the Investment Company Act or classified as an association taxable as a corporation for U.S. Federal income tax purposes; and

the corresponding subordinated debt securities will be treated as indebtedness of Comerica for U.S. Federal income tax purposes. In this regard, Comerica and the administrative trustees are authorized to take any action not inconsistent with applicable law, the certificate of trust of Comerica Capital Trust III or the trust agreement, that Comerica and the administrative trustees determine, in their discretion, to be necessary or desirable for these purposes, as long as the action does not materially adversely affect the interests of the holders of the related capital securities.

Capital Securities Guarantees

Concurrently with the issuance by Comerica Capital Trust III of its capital securities, Comerica will execute and deliver a capital securities guarantee for the benefit of the holders of the capital securities. The guarantee trustee acting under the capital securities guarantee for the purposes of compliance with the Trust Indenture Act will be named in the applicable prospectus supplement, and the capital securities guarantee will be qualified as an indenture under the Trust Indenture Act.

The following is a summary of the material provisions of the capital securities guarantees. You should refer to the form of capital securities guarantee and the Trust Indenture Act for more complete information regarding the provisions of the capital securities guarantee. The form of the capital securities guarantee has been filed as an

Table of Contents

exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. Reference in this summary to capital securities means Comerica Capital Trust III's capital securities to which the capital securities guarantee relates. The guarantee trustee will hold the capital securities guarantee for the benefit of the holders of Comerica Capital Trust III's capital securities.

General

Comerica will irrevocably agree to pay in full on a subordinated basis, to the extent described below, the guarantee payments, without duplication of amounts previously paid by or on behalf of Comerica Capital Trust III, to the holders of the capital securities as and when due, regardless of any defense, right of setoff or counterclaim that Comerica Capital Trust III may have or assert other than the defense of payment. The following payments with respect to the capital securities, to the extent not paid by or on behalf of Comerica Capital Trust III, are referred to in this prospectus as the guarantee payments:

any accrued and unpaid distributions required to be paid on the capital securities, to the extent that Comerica Capital Trust III has funds available for payment at that time;

the redemption price, including all accrued and unpaid distributions to the redemption date, with respect to any capital securities called for redemption, to the extent that Comerica Capital Trust III has funds available for payment at that time; and

upon a voluntary or involuntary dissolution, winding up or liquidation of Comerica Capital Trust III, unless the corresponding subordinated debt securities are distributed to holders of the capital securities, the lesser of:

the liquidation distribution, to the extent Comerica Capital Trust III has funds available for payment at that time; and

the amount of assets of Comerica Capital Trust III remaining available for distribution to holders of capital securities.

Comerica's obligation to make a guarantee payment may be satisfied by direct payment of the required amounts by us to the holders of the capital securities or by causing Comerica Capital Trust III to pay these amounts to the holders.

Comerica's obligations under the capital securities guarantee, the subordinated indenture, including its guarantee of the subordinated debt securities, and the expense agreement described below, taken together, constitute a full, irrevocable and unconditional guarantee by us of payments due on the capital securities. No single document standing alone or operating in conjunction with fewer than all of the other documents constitute this guarantee. It is only the combined operation of these documents that has the effect of providing a full, irrevocable and unconditional guarantee of the Comerica Capital Trust's obligations under the capital securities. See *Comerica Capital Trust III, Description of Capital Securities*, and *Description of Debt Securities*.

Comerica will also agree to guarantee the obligations of Comerica Capital Trust III with respect to the common securities issued by Comerica Capital Trust III to the same extent as under the capital securities guarantee. However, if an event of default under the subordinated indenture has occurred and is continuing, the holders of capital securities under the capital securities guarantee will have priority over the holders of the common securities under the common securities guarantee with respect to distributions and payments on liquidation, redemption or otherwise.

Status of the Capital Securities Guarantees

The capital securities guarantee will constitute Comerica's unsecured obligation and will rank subordinate and junior in right of payment to Comerica's senior indebtedness, including its debt securities and obligations as

Table of Contents

guarantor under the subordinate indenture. For purposes of any capital securities guarantee, senior indebtedness means our indebtedness, including our obligations as guarantor under the subordinated indenture, outstanding at any time, except:

the indebtedness under the capital securities guarantee;

indebtedness as to which, by the terms of the instrument creating or evidencing the same, it is provided that the indebtedness is subordinated to or ranks equally with the capital securities guarantee or to other indebtedness which is subordinated to or ranks equally with the capital securities guarantee;

indebtedness to an affiliate;

interest accruing after the filing of a petition initiating any bankruptcy, insolvency or other similar proceeding unless the interest is an allowed claim enforceable against us in a proceeding under federal or state bankruptcy laws;

trade accounts payable; and

similar capital securities guarantees issued by us on behalf of holders of capital securities of any other Comerica Capital Trust or any trust, partnership or other entity affiliated with Comerica which is a financing vehicle of its or any of its affiliates in connection with the issuance by the entity of capital securities or other similar securities that are guaranteed by Comerica pursuant to an instrument that ranks equally with or junior in right of payment to the capital securities guarantee.

Indebtedness has the same meaning given to that term under the Comerica indentures.

The capital securities guarantee will rank equally with all other similar capital securities guarantees issued by us on behalf of holders of capital securities of any other Comerica Capital Trust or any trust, partnership or other entity affiliated with Comerica which is a financing vehicle of Comerica or any affiliate of Comerica in connection with the issuance by the entity of capital securities or other similar securities that are guaranteed by Comerica pursuant to an instrument that ranks equally with or junior in right of payment to the capital securities guarantee. The capital securities guarantee will constitute a guarantee of payment and not of collection, which means that the guaranteed party may generally institute a legal proceeding directly against us to enforce its rights under the capital securities guarantee without first instituting a legal proceeding against any other person or entity, including Comerica Capital Trust III.

No capital securities guarantee will be discharged except by payment of the guarantee payments in full to the extent not paid by Comerica Capital Trust III or upon distribution to the holders of the capital securities of the corresponding subordinated debt securities. None of the capital securities guarantees places a limitation on the amount of additional indebtedness that may be incurred by us. Comerica expects from time to time to incur additional indebtedness that will rank senior to the capital securities guarantees.

Amendments and Assignment

No capital securities guarantee may be amended without the prior approval of the holders of not less than a majority of the aggregate liquidation amount of the outstanding capital securities, except with respect to any changes which do not materially adversely affect the rights of holders of the related capital securities, in which case no consent will be required. All guarantees and agreements contained in the capital securities guarantee will bind our successors and assigns and will inure to the benefit of the holders of the related capital securities. Comerica may not assign Comerica's obligations under the capital securities guarantee except in connection with a consolidation, amalgamation or merger or conveyance, transfer or lease that is permitted under the subordinated indenture and under which the person formed by the consolidation or amalgamation or into which Comerica is merged or which acquires or leases our properties and assets agrees in writing to perform Comerica's obligations under the capital securities guarantee.

Table of Contents

Events of Default

An event of default under the capital securities guarantee will occur upon Comerica's failure to perform any of its payment or other obligations under the capital securities guarantee. The holders of not less than a majority in aggregate liquidation amount of the related capital securities have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the guarantee trustee or to direct the exercise of any trust or power conferred upon the guarantee trustee.

Any holder of the capital securities may institute a legal proceeding directly against us to enforce its rights under the capital securities guarantee without first instituting a legal proceeding against Comerica Capital Trust III, the guarantee trustee or any other person or entity.

Comerica, as guarantor, are required to file annually with the guarantee trustee a certificate as to whether or not Comerica is in compliance with all the conditions and covenants applicable to it under the capital securities guarantee.

Information Concerning the Guarantee Trustee

The guarantee trustee, other than during the occurrence and continuance of a default by us in performance of any capital securities guarantee, undertakes to perform only the duties specifically set forth in the capital securities guarantee. After default with respect to any capital securities guarantee, the guarantee trustee must exercise the same degree of care and skill as a prudent person would exercise or use in the conduct of his or her own affairs. Subject to the preceding sentence, the guarantee trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of the powers vested in it by any capital securities guarantee at the request of any holder of any capital securities unless it is offered reasonable indemnity against the costs, expenses, and liabilities that it might incur.

Termination of the Capital Securities Guarantees

The capital securities guarantee will terminate upon:

full payment of the redemption price of the related capital securities;

the distribution of the corresponding subordinated debt securities to the holders of the related capital securities; or

upon full payment of the amounts payable upon liquidation of Comerica Capital Trust III.

The capital securities guarantee will continue to be effective or will be reinstated if, at any time, any holder of the related capital securities must restore payment of any sums paid with respect to the capital securities or the capital securities guarantee.

New York Law to Govern

The capital securities guarantee will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York.

Expense Agreement

Pursuant to the expense agreement entered into by us under the trust agreement, Comerica will irrevocably and unconditionally guarantee to each person or entity to whom Comerica Capital Trust III becomes indebted or liable, the full payment of any costs, expenses or liabilities of Comerica Capital Trust III, other than obligations of Comerica Capital Trust III to pay to the holders of the capital securities or other similar interests in Comerica Capital Trust III of the amounts due them pursuant to the terms of the capital securities or other similar interests, as the case may be.

Table of Contents

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

Comerica may offer the offered securities in one or more of the following ways from time to time:

to or through underwriters or dealers;

by itself directly;

through agents; or

through a combination of any of these methods of sale.

Any such underwriters, dealers or agents may include any broker-dealer subsidiary of Comerica.

The prospectus supplement relating to an offering of offered securities will set forth the terms of such offering, including:

the name or names of any underwriters, dealers or agents;

the purchase price of the offered securities and the proceeds to Comerica from such sale;

any underwriting discounts and commissions or agency fees and other items constituting underwriters or agents compensation;

the initial public offering price;

any discounts or concessions to be allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers; and

any securities exchanges on which such offered securities may be listed.

Any initial public offering prices, discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers may be changed from time to time.

In compliance with the guidelines of FINRA, the maximum discount or commission to be received by any FINRA member or independent broker-dealer may not exceed 8% of the aggregate amount of the securities offered pursuant to this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement; however, it is anticipated that the maximum commission or discount to be received in any particular offering of securities will be significantly less than this amount.

If underwriters are used in an offering of offered securities, such offered securities will be acquired by the underwriters for their own account and may be resold from time to time in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. The securities may be offered either to the public through underwriting syndicates represented by one or more managing underwriters or by one or more underwriters without a syndicate. Unless otherwise specified in connection with a particular offering of securities, the underwriters will not be obligated to purchase offered securities unless specified conditions are satisfied, and if the underwriters do purchase any offered securities, they will purchase all offered securities.

Edgar Filing: COMERICA INC /NEW/ - Form 424B5

In connection with underwritten offerings of the offered securities and in accordance with applicable law and industry practice, underwriters may over-allot or effect transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of the offered securities at levels above those that might otherwise prevail in the open market, including by entering stabilizing bids, effecting syndicate covering transactions or imposing penalty bids, each of which is described below.

A stabilizing bid means the placing of any bid, or the effecting of any purchase, for the purpose of pegging, fixing or maintaining the price of a security.

A syndicate covering transaction means the placing of any bid on behalf of the underwriting syndicate or the effecting of any purchase to reduce a short position created in connection with the offering.

Table of Contents

A penalty bid means an arrangement that permits the managing underwriter to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member in connection with the offering when offered securities originally sold by the syndicate member are purchased in syndicate covering transactions.

These transactions may be effected on the NYSE, in the over-the-counter market, or otherwise. Underwriters are not required to engage in any of these activities, or to continue such activities if commenced.

If dealers are utilized in the sale of offered securities, Comerica will sell such offered securities to the dealers as principals. The dealers may then resell such offered securities to the public at varying prices to be determined by such dealers at the time of resale. The names of the dealers and the terms of the transaction will be set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to that transaction.

Offered securities may be sold directly by Comerica to one or more institutional purchasers, or through agents designated by Comerica from time to time, at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed, or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. Any agent involved in the offer or sale of the offered securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered will be named, and any commissions payable by Comerica to such agent will be set forth, in the prospectus supplement relating to that offering. Unless otherwise specified in connection with a particular offering of securities, any such agent will be acting on a best efforts basis for the period of its appointment.

As one of the means of direct issuance of offered securities, Comerica may utilize the services of an entity through which it may conduct an electronic dutch auction or similar offering of the offered securities among potential purchasers who are eligible to participate in the auction or offering of such offered securities, if so described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

If so indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, Comerica will authorize agents, underwriters or dealers to solicit offers from certain types of institutions to purchase offered securities from Comerica at the public offering price set forth in such prospectus supplement pursuant to delayed delivery contracts providing for payment and delivery on a specified date in the future. Such contracts will be subject only to those conditions set forth in the prospectus supplement and the prospectus supplement will set forth the commission payable for solicitation of such contracts.

The broker-dealer subsidiaries of Comerica, including Comerica Securities, Inc., are members of FINRA, and may participate in distributions of the offered securities. Accordingly, offerings of offered securities in which Comerica's broker-dealer subsidiaries participate will conform with the requirements of FINRA's conflict of interest rules.

This prospectus, together with any applicable prospectus supplement, may also be used by any broker-dealer subsidiary of Comerica in connection with offers and sales of the offered securities in market-making transactions, including block positioning and block trades, at negotiated prices related to prevailing market prices at the time of sale. Any of Comerica's broker-dealer subsidiaries may act as principal or agent in such transactions. None of Comerica's broker-dealer subsidiaries have any obligation to make a market in any of the offered securities and may discontinue any market-making activities at any time without notice, at its sole discretion.

One or more dealers, referred to as remarketing firms, may also offer or sell the securities, if the prospectus supplement so indicates, in connection with a remarketing arrangement contemplated by the terms of the securities. Remarketing firms will act as principals for their own accounts or as agents. The prospectus supplement will identify any remarketing firm and the terms of its agreement, if any, with Comerica and will describe the remarketing firm's compensation. Remarketing firms may be deemed to be underwriters in connection with the remarketing of the securities.

Table of Contents

Underwriters, dealers and agents may be entitled, under agreements with Comerica, to indemnification by Comerica relating to material misstatements and omissions. Underwriters, dealers and agents may be customers of, engage in transactions with, or perform services for, Comerica and affiliates of Comerica in the ordinary course of business.

Except for securities issued upon a reopening of a previous series, each series of offered securities will be a new issue of securities and will have no established trading market. Any underwriters to whom offered securities are sold for public offering and sale may make a market in such offered securities, but such underwriters will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. The offered securities may or may not be listed on a securities exchange. No assurance can be given that there will be a market for the offered securities.

ERISA CONSIDERATIONS

A fiduciary of a pension, profit-sharing or other employee benefit plan governed by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA), should consider the fiduciary standards of ERISA in the context of the ERISA plan's particular circumstances before authorizing an investment in the offered securities of Comerica. Among other factors, the fiduciary should consider whether such an investment is in accordance with the documents governing the ERISA plan and whether the investment is appropriate for the ERISA plan in view of its overall investment policy and diversification of its portfolio.

Certain provisions of ERISA and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), prohibit employee benefit plans (as defined in Section 3(3) of ERISA) that are subject to Title I of ERISA, plans described in Section 4975(e)(1) of the Code (including, without limitation, retirement accounts and Keogh Plans) that are subject to Section 4975 of the Code, and entities whose assets include plan assets by reason of a plan's investment in such entities (including, without limitation, as applicable, insurance company general accounts), from engaging in certain transactions involving plan assets with parties that are parties in interest under ERISA or disqualified persons under the Code with respect to the plan or entity. Governmental and other plans that are not subject to ERISA or to the Code may be subject to similar restrictions under non-U.S., state, federal or local law. Any employee benefit plan or other entity, to which such provisions of ERISA, the Code or similar law apply, proposing to acquire the offered securities should consult with its legal counsel.

Comerica has subsidiaries, including insurance company subsidiaries and broker-dealer subsidiaries, that provide services to many employee benefit plans. Comerica and any such direct or indirect subsidiary of Comerica may each be considered a party in interest and a disqualified person to a large number of plans. A purchase of offered securities of Comerica by any such plan would be likely to result in a prohibited transaction between the plan and Comerica.

Accordingly, unless otherwise provided in connection with a particular offering of securities, offered securities may not be purchased, held or disposed of by any plan or any other person investing plan assets of any plan that is subject to the prohibited transaction rules of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code or other similar law, unless one of the following Prohibited Transaction Class Exemptions (PTCE) or a similar exemption or exception applies to such purchase, holding and disposition:

PTCE 96-23 for transactions determined by in-house asset managers,

PTCE 95-60 for transactions involving insurance company general accounts,

PTCE 91-38 for transactions involving bank collective investment funds,

PTCE 90-1 for transactions involving insurance company separate accounts,

PTCE 84-14 for transactions determined by independent qualified professional asset managers, or

Edgar Filing: COMERICA INC /NEW/ - Form 424B5

Section 408(b)(17) of ERISA or Section 4975(d)(20) of the Code for transactions with certain service providers (the Service Provider Exemption).

Table of Contents

Unless otherwise provided in connection with a particular offering of securities, any purchaser of the offered securities or any interest therein will be deemed to have represented and warranted to Comerica on each day including the date of its purchase of the offered securities through and including the date of disposition of such offered securities that either:

- (a) it is not a plan subject to Title I of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code and is not purchasing such securities or interest therein on behalf of, or with plan assets of, any such plan;
- (b) its purchase, holding and disposition of such securities are not and will not be prohibited because they are exempted by one or more of the following prohibited transaction exemptions: PTCE 96-23, 95-60, 91-38, 90-1, 84-14 or the Service Provider Exemption; or
- (c) it is a governmental plan (as defined in section 3(32) of ERISA) or other plan that is not subject to the provisions of Title I of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code and its purchase, holding and disposition of such securities are not otherwise prohibited.

Due to the complexity of these rules and the penalties imposed upon persons involved in prohibited transactions, it is important that any person considering the purchase of the offered securities with plan assets consult with its counsel regarding the consequences under ERISA and the Code, or other similar law, of the acquisition and ownership of offered securities and the availability of exemptive relief under the class exemptions listed above.

The sale of any securities to any plan is in no respect a representation by Comerica or any of its affiliates or representatives that such an investment is appropriate for or meets all relevant legal requirements with respect to investments by plans generally or any particular plan. Please consult the applicable prospectus supplement for further information with respect to a particular offering and, in certain cases, further restrictions on the purchase or transfer of securities.

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of those securities, other than capital securities, has been passed upon for Comerica by Mayer Brown LLP, Chicago, Illinois. The validity of the capital securities has been passed upon for Comerica Capital Trust III by special Delaware counsel, Richards, Layton & Finger, P.A., Wilmington, Delaware. In connection with particular offerings of the securities in the future, the validity of the securities, other than capital securities, may be passed upon for Comerica by one of Comerica's lawyers or other counsel to Comerica named in the applicable prospectus supplement and for underwriters, agents or dealers by Mayer Brown LLP, Chicago, Illinois.

EXPERTS

Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, has audited our consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, and the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2008, as set forth in their reports, which are incorporated by reference in this registration statement. Our financial statements are incorporated by reference in reliance on Ernst & Young LLP's reports, given on their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

Comerica files annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our SEC filings are available to the public over the Internet at the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>. You may read and copy any document Comerica files in the SEC's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, N.E.,

Table of Contents

Washington, D.C. 20549. You may also obtain copies of this information by mail from the Public Reference Section of the SEC, 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549, at prescribed rates. You may obtain information on the operation of the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC also maintains an Internet web site that contains reports, proxy statements and other information about issuers, like us, that file electronically with the SEC. The address of that site is <http://www.sec.gov>. The SEC file number for documents Comerica files under the Exchange Act is 001-10706. Comerica's SEC filings are also available at the office of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005. For further information on obtaining copies of our public filings at the NYSE, you should call (212) 656-5060.

Comerica is allowed to incorporate by reference the information Comerica files with the SEC, which means that it can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus, and information that Comerica files subsequently with the SEC will automatically update and supersede the information included and/or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. Comerica incorporates by reference the documents listed below and any future filings made with the SEC (other than portions of these documents that are furnished under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of a Current Report on Form 8-K, including any exhibits included with such Items) under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, after the initial filing of the registration statement that contains this prospectus and prior to the time that Comerica sells all of the securities offered by this prospectus:

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009;

Current Reports on Form 8-K filed January 8, 2010 and January 28, 2010 (excluding the information under Item 7.01 and the information incorporated by reference therein under Exhibit 99.1);

The preliminary Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed on March 4, 2010; and

The description of Comerica's common stock contained in the Registration Statement on Form S-4/A filed on December 14, 2000 (Commission File Number 333-51042).

You may request a copy of these filings, other than exhibits unless that exhibit is specifically incorporated by reference into that filing, at no cost, by writing or telephoning Comerica at the following address:

Investor Relations

Comerica Incorporated

Comerica Bank Tower

1717 Main Street

Dallas, Texas 75201

Telephone number: (214) 462-6831

Table of Contents

\$

Comerica Incorporated

% Senior Notes due

Prospectus supplement

BofA Merrill Lynch

J.P. Morgan

Joint Book-Running Managers