

## V. Gerard Comizio



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**V. Gerard Comizio** is the chair of the Paul Hastings Banking and Financial Institutions practice, resident in the Washington, D.C., office. He is a leading authority on banking and financial services matters. He has extensive experience in representing a wide range of both domestic and foreign bank, thrift, mortgage, industrial loan banks, trust and fiduciary, consumer and specialty lenders, and financial services companies.

Mr. Comizio has been featured in the *American Banker's* annual "Washington Insider's Survey of the 25 Most Influential People Involved in Financial Services Regulatory Issues", and recognized in *Washingtonian Magazine's* "Top Lawyer" edition as one of the best banking lawyers in Washington, D.C. He also has appeared on television and radio, including most recently on Fox Business News and Bloomberg TV to discuss the U.S. Department of Treasury's Financial Stability Plan, Canada's BNN CTV Squeezeplay program and CBS Los Angeles affiliate 980 AM, discussing current banking and regulatory issues.

In January 2010, Mr. Comizio authored an article for *Forbes* regarding the federal preemption debate entitled *A Case for Uniformity: Why the US Needs Consistent Banking and Consumer Laws*.

Prior to joining Paul Hastings, he was for many years the deputy general counsel and acting general counsel of the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Thrift Supervision (and its predecessor, the Federal Home Loan Bank Board), and director of its Corporate and Securities Division. From 1980 to 1984, Mr. Comizio was a senior attorney with the Securities and Exchange Commission in the Division of Corporation Finance.

In 1987, Mr. Comizio was the recipient of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board's Special Management Achievement Award, in recognition of his contributions to the government's effort to resolve the savings and loan crisis.

Mr. Comizio is a regular speaker at conferences and seminars. He has for many years been adjunct professor of banking law at the Washington College of Law, American University, teaching courses on banking law, international banking law and regulation of financial institutions. He also teaches one of the first financial services courses in the country to address comparative regulation of banks, insurance companies and securities firms.

Mr. Comizio has written numerous articles on financial services issues, and is a contributing author of three books on financial services matters: *Winning Legal Strategies for Banking Law: Getting Down to Basics*, Aspatore Books (2005); *The Bank Founders Guidebook*, SNL Securities (1999); and *The Bank Investors Relations Handbook*, America's Community Bankers (2003).

Mr. Comizio is a member of the Governing Committee of the U.S. Conference on Consumer Finance Law, a member of the board of advisors of the University of North Carolina Center for Banking and Finance, and chairman of the Trusts and Investments Subcommittee of the American Bar Association's Banking Law Committee.