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## The Sky is Not Falling



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A dominant characteristic of our society is the emphasis given to news, especially if it draws our attention. Sadly, this is often presented as what can simply be classified as “bad news.” I am both amused and dismayed at what almost appears to be a competitive effort to find news that will demand our attention by its shock value. While this is in reality an effort to entertain listeners, readers and viewers, it also fails to provide a balanced view of many issues.

Such is the case with our current economic, and even political, environment. However, we now must add a fairly high level of uncertainty which filters its way to each of us. This means that we are led to view our situations through the somewhat biased eyes of a media that is reporting news that may have little to do with our personal lives. This is particularly true for us as Texans. Unlike many other parts of the country, we are actually doing well and not suffering from many of the upheavals brought on by excesses in other markets. Our home prices are not falling precipitously because they did not go up unrealistically. Our employment is strong and resilient due to its diversity and inherent stability. The list of differences could go on and on, but the result is that we are very fortunate to be in this place at this time.

ViewPoint Bankers Mortgage and our parent, ViewPoint Bank are reflective of this strong and resilient style. Our leadership did not pursue

the glamorous and foolhardy paths of many financial institutions that are now facing the consequences of those decisions. We have been here for over fifty years, have seen many economic gyrations and have maintained a steady course through prior difficult times. Because of those choices and adherence to sound banking principles, we stand strong and continue to be committed to serving you and your financial needs. We have seen challenging times before and plan to be here through these times, and for many years to come.

Thank you for your loyalty over the years. Please know that we are here and able to provide a complete menu of mortgage financing services, from construction to all types of permanent loans. We are committed to providing the best and most professional counsel and service and would be honored if you, your family and friends should call on us.

**Gerald R. Taylor**

President, ViewPoint Bankers Mortgage



This information is solely advisory, and should not be substituted for legal, financial or tax advice. Any and all financial decisions and actions must be done through the advice and counsel of a qualified attorney, financial advisor and/or CPA.

# How To Check Your Credit

Texans can get a free copy of their credit report every 12 months from each of the three national credit bureaus – Experian, TransUnion and Equifax by going to [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or calling 1-877-322-8228.

The free credit reports do not include credit scores. Consumers have to purchase those from the credit bureaus.



## Dallas-Fort Worth Is Different

Dallas-Fort Worth still remains one of the strongest housing markets in the nation. Even with the nation experiencing great housing depreciation, there are several factors that help keep DFW a low-risk real estate market. A few contributing factors are a healthy local economy, steady growth in home values and overall home affordability.

According to the latest report from PMI Group, a mortgage insurance firm, it shows that DFW has shown less than a 1 percent decline in local housing prices. It attributes DFW's growing economy and less than average excess supply of housing as leading factors.

For more information on what makes Dallas-Fort Worth housing different, go to [www.DFWHousingFacts.org](http://www.DFWHousingFacts.org).



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