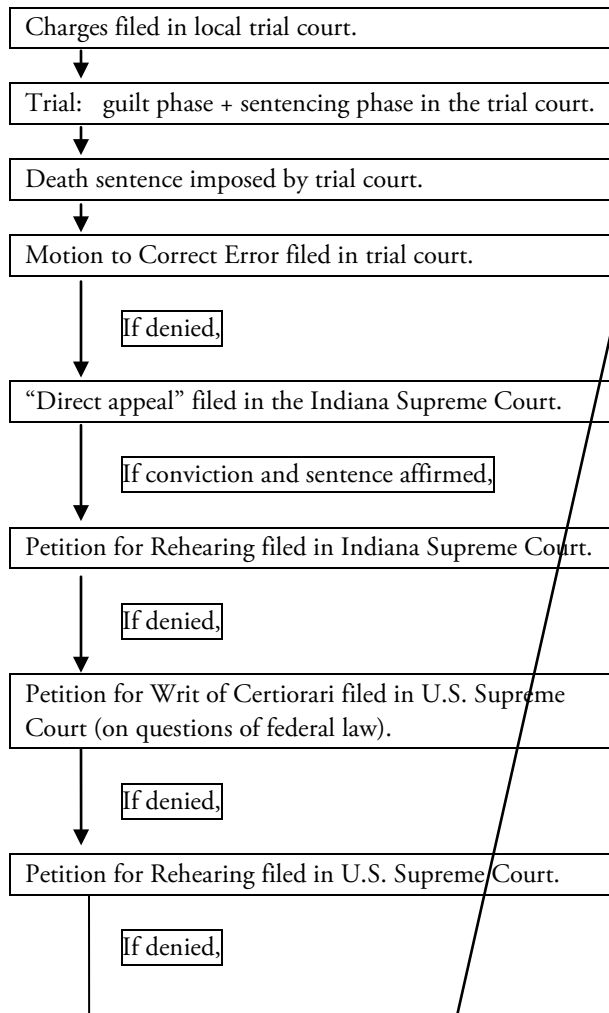


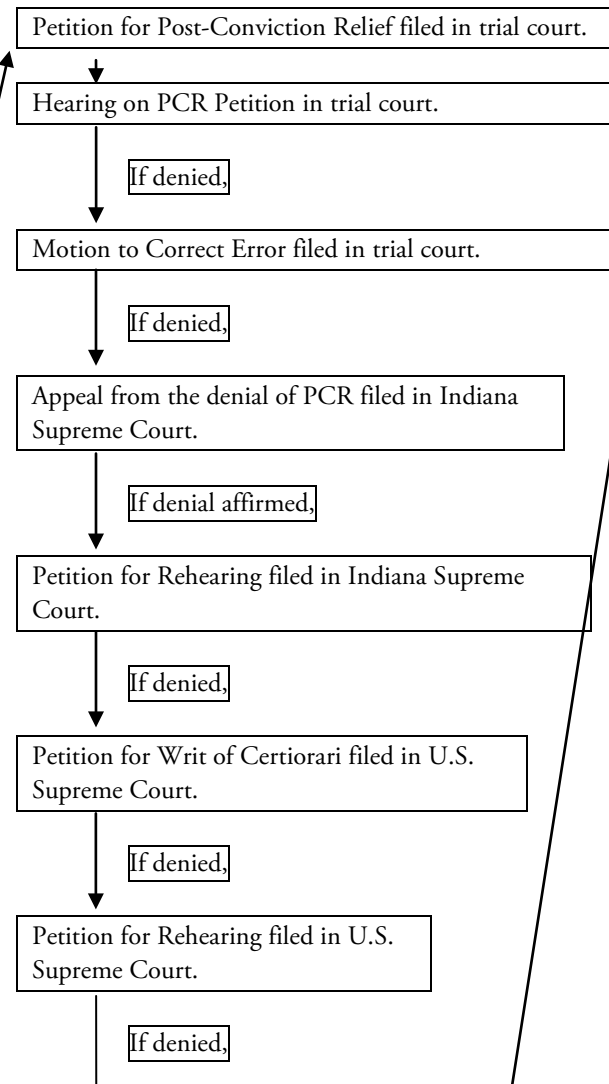
# Avenues of appeal for a death row inmate

The only appeal that mandatory is direct appeal review of the death sentence by the Indiana Supreme Court.  
All of the other potential steps in the appellate process are optional; the convicted person chooses whether to request review.

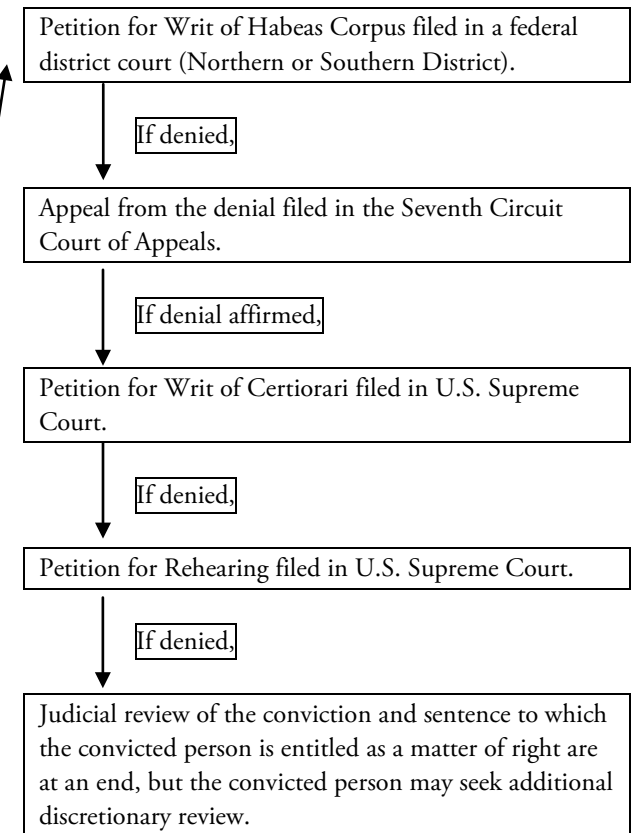
## Trial & Direct Appeal



## State Post-Conviction Relief



## Federal Habeas Corpus



## Successive Post-Conviction Petition

The convicted person must obtain permission from the Indiana Supreme Court before the convicted person is allowed to litigate his claims in a state trial court.

## Successive Habeas Corpus Petition

The convicted person must obtain permission from the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals before the convicted person is allowed to litigate his claims in federal court.

## Executive Branch proceedings

In addition to judicial review, the convicted person may also request review of the conviction and sentence from the executive branch. These "clemency proceedings" often take place simultaneously with the successive post-conviction and habeas proceedings.

