

**RAP 16.1**  
**PROCEEDINGS TO WHICH TITLE APPLIES**

**(a) Generally.** The rules in this title establish the procedure for original actions in the Supreme Court and in the Court of Appeals, and the procedure for determining questions of law certified by a federal court.

**(b) Original Actions in Supreme Court Against State Officers.** Rule 16.2 defines the procedure for petitions against state officers for writs of mandamus, prohibition, quo warranto, and similar writs, but only when the proceeding is started for the first time in the Supreme Court.

**(c) Original Actions in the Appellate Court--Personal Restraint Petition.** Rules 16.3 through 16.15 define the procedure for a personal restraint petition, but only when the proceeding is started for the first time in the appellate court.

**(d) Questions Certified by Federal Court.** Rule 16.16 defines the procedure for determining questions of law certified by a federal court.

**(e) Review of Decision of the Court of Appeals.** Except as provided in rule 16.14, a Court of Appeals decision in a special proceeding is subject to review by the Supreme Court only by discretionary review as provided in Title 13.

**(f) Removal of Public Officer.** Proceedings to remove a public officer are governed by statute and not these rules.

**(g) Review of Sentence.** Rule 16.18 defines the procedure for reviewing a sentence committing an offender to the Department of Corrections, when an error of law is asserted by the Department.

**(h) Capital Cases.** Rules 16.19 through 16.27 define the procedure for appeals and original actions in which the death penalty has been decreed.

[Adopted effective July 1, 1976; Amended effective September 1, 1992; December 30, 1997.]