The Starkess

Muncie, Indiana

WWW.THESTARPRESS.COM

BMH, EMTs named in suit

■ The lawsuit alleges that Jack Capper died partly because he was dropped from a stretcher in 2004, suffering chest and internal injuries.

By NICK WERNER
nwerner@muncie.gannett.com

ne 28, 2007

MUNCIE — Family members of a 44-year-old Montpelier man who died 13 days after Eaton EMTs allegedly dropped him

from a medical stretcher at Ball Memorial Hospital are seeking \$1 million in a wrongful death lawsuit

Whether the fall contributed to Jack Capper's death by heart attack and kidney failure on May 16, 2004, however, is where attorney's on each side disagree

Jack Capper suffered multiple rib fractures and a torn diaphragm in the fall on May 3, 2004, Indianapolis attorney Jason Reese said. Those injuries were listed by a certifying physician on Capper's death certificate as "conditions which gave rise to the immediate cause," as was a pre-existing bowel obstruction.

"The most important thing this

family wants to do is to hold these two corporations accountable," Reese said.

Capper's adult daughter, Amanda Capper, and his mother, Martha Sue Capper, who represent Jack Capper's estate, filed a lawsuit in March 2006 against Eaton EMTs Inc., including EMTs Troy Harshman and Timothy Stapleton, and Ball Memorial Hospital.

The case has been scheduled for trial by jury Sept. 25 in Dela-

ware Circuit Court 1.

Reese issued a press release on the case this week after recent attempts to reach resolution through mediations failed, he said.

Muncie attorney John Brooke, who represents Eaton EMTs, questioned the timing of Reese's press release and called the \$1million demand excessive.

> See AMBULANCE, 2A